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Thomas, Michael; De Rycker, Manu; Wall, Richard J.; Spinks, Daniel; Epemolu, Ola; Manthri, Sujatha

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# Identification and Optimization of a Series of 8-Hydroxy Naphthyridines with Potent *In Vitro* Antileishmanial Activity: Initial SAR and Assessment of *In Vivo* Activity

Michael G. Thomas,\* Manu De Rycker, Richard J. Wall, Daniel Spinks, Ola Epemolu, Sujatha Manthri, Suzanne Norval, Maria Osuna-Cabello, Stephen Patterson, Jennifer Riley, Frederick R. C. Simeons, Laste Stojanovski, John Thomas, Stephen Thompson, Claire Naylor, Jose M. Fiandor, Paul G. Wyatt, Maria Marco, Susan Wyllie, Kevin D. Read, Timothy J. Miles,\* and Ian H. Gilbert\*



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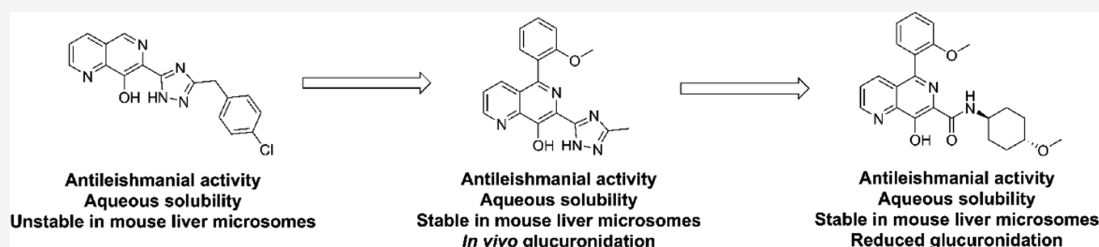
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**ABSTRACT:** Visceral leishmaniasis (VL) is a parasitic infection that results in approximately 26 000–65 000 deaths annually. The available treatments are hampered by issues such as toxicity, variable efficacy, and unsuitable dosing options. The need for new treatments is urgent and led to a collaboration between the Drugs for Neglected Diseases initiative (DNDi), GlaxoSmithKline (GSK), and the University of Dundee. An 8-hydroxynaphthyridine was identified as a start point, and an early compound demonstrated weak efficacy in a mouse model of VL but was hampered by glucuronidation. Efforts to address this led to the development of compounds with improved *in vitro* profiles, but these were poorly tolerated *in vivo*. Investigation of the mode of action (MoA) demonstrated that activity was driven by sequestration of divalent metal cations, a mechanism which was likely to drive the poor tolerability. This highlights the importance of investigating MoA and pharmacokinetics at an early stage for phenotypically active series.

## INTRODUCTION

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), neglected tropical diseases (NTDs) affect in excess of 1 billion people, the majority being in the most impoverished areas of the world.<sup>1</sup> Of these NTDs, visceral leishmaniasis (VL) remains one of the most challenging to treat. VL is caused by infection with the protozoan parasites *Leishmania donovani* and *Leishmania infantum*, which are transmitted through the bite of female phlebotomine sand flies.<sup>2</sup> Following infection, parasites reside predominantly in the liver, spleen, and bone marrow, and if left untreated, the disease is invariably fatal. Although it is challenging to precisely determine the number of people affected by VL, WHO estimates suggest that 50 000–90 000 new infections result in an annual death toll of between 26 000 and 65 000, with the vast majority of cases occurring in India, Bangladesh, Sudan, Ethiopia, and Brazil.<sup>3</sup>

Although there are a number of available treatments, all suffer from major issues that limit their use. Miltefosine, the only orally available treatment, is teratogenic so can only be prescribed to women of childbearing age alongside contraception, and also

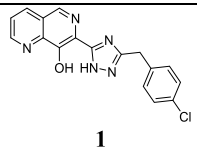
shows other side effects, as well as variable efficacy.<sup>4</sup> Liposomal amphotericin B (Ambisome) is widely effective in Asia, but its use is limited by the need for intravenous (iv) administration which requires hospitalization, and it also requires a cold-chain for storage. An alternative aminoglycoside antibiotic paromomycin is much less expensive but demonstrates variable efficacy and requires a long course of painful intramuscular injections.<sup>5</sup> Finally, pentavalent antimonials, such as sodium stibogluconate, have been widely used since the 1940s, but they are cardiotoxic, require parenteral administration, and are largely ineffective in large areas of India due to high levels of drug resistance. Although new compounds have recently entered the development pipeline,<sup>6</sup> including two preclinical candidates developed

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Table 1

Compound	Ld InMac <sup>a</sup> (pEC <sub>50</sub> )	THP-1 <sup>a</sup> (pEC <sub>50</sub> )	Cl <sub>i</sub> (mouse, mL/min/g) <sup>b</sup>	Aq Solubility (μM) <sup>c</sup>	ChromLogD <sub>pH7.4</sub> <sup>11</sup>
 <b>1</b>	6.5	4.5	16	219	4.1
Amphotericin	6.7	<6.0	ND <sup>d</sup>	ND <sup>d</sup>	ND <sup>d</sup>
Miltefosine	5.4	<4.3	ND <sup>d</sup>	ND <sup>d</sup>	ND <sup>d</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Ld InMac is the intramacrophage assay carried out in THP-1 cells with *L. donovani* amastigotes. Data are the result of at least four independent replicates, and standard deviations are  $\leq 0.4$ . <sup>b</sup>Cl<sub>i</sub> is mouse liver microsomal intrinsic clearance. <sup>c</sup>Aq solubility is kinetic aqueous solubility. <sup>d</sup>ND means not determined.

within this collaboration (DDD853651/GSK3186899 and DDD1305143/GSK3494245) as well as the Novartis compound GNF6702, which have been disclosed in recent publications,<sup>7</sup> there is still an urgent need for new treatments with improved safety profiles, more straightforward administration, lower costs, and also with alternate modes of action.

One of the major challenges for drug discovery for VL is the lack of robustly validated drug targets in *Leishmania* spp. For this reason, to identify suitable start points for drug discovery, compound libraries are screened directly against parasites *in vitro*, leading to phenotypically active compounds with unknown mechanisms of action. An additional confounding factor in attempts to identify chemical start points is the fact that in the human host, parasites are found within macrophages, where they reside within a parasitophorous vacuole. Therefore, relevant high-content screens, suitable for high-throughput screening (HTS), require culture of parasites in macrophages, typically differentiated THP-1 cells.<sup>8</sup> For any compounds to be identified as hits in these screens, they would be required to have suitable physicochemical properties to cross a number of cell membranes, across various pH gradients, as well as having antiparasitic activity. As a result, hit rates are extremely low in these assays, typically below 0.1%.<sup>9</sup> Nevertheless, compound series that are active in this assay and can be developed to give suitable properties for *in vivo* dosing have a high likelihood of success in rodent models of VL.

Using this intramacrophage assay, an HTS screen of a GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) collection of 1.8 M compounds was performed against *L. donovani*.<sup>10</sup> The hits identified were screened in secondary antiparasitic assays, assessed for non-specific cytotoxicity in HepG2 cells, clustered, and filtered based on favorable physicochemical properties, resulting in the identification of 33 chemical series and 75 singletons. One of the identified series was exemplified by **1** (Table 1), an 8-hydroxynaphthyridine, which was shown to have potency against the parasite (pEC<sub>50</sub> = 6.5) with ~100-fold selectivity over the human THP-1 cell line (pEC<sub>50</sub> = 4.5). This compared favorably to the current treatments, amphotericin (pEC<sub>50</sub> = 6.7) and miltefosine (pEC<sub>50</sub> = 5.4). Upon further profiling, **1** was shown to have reasonable aqueous (aq) solubility (219 μM) but low stability in mouse liver microsomes (Cl<sub>i</sub> = 18 mL/min/g). On the basis of this, **1** was selected as a suitable start point for a hit-to-lead program.

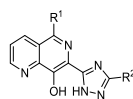
The principal aim of this work was to identify analogues of **1** with a suitable profile for dosing in a mouse efficacy model of VL as rapidly as possible, to demonstrate that the series had the potential to progress into lead-optimization. Therefore, the initial chemistry program focused on understanding the structure–activity relationship (SAR) of the series, with an aim of identifying compounds with improved solubility and metabolic stability, as well as suitable potency for *in vivo* studies. Our targets were to achieve pEC<sub>50</sub> > 5.8, aqueous solubility > 200 μM, and mouse liver microsomal clearance of < 5.0 mL/min/g, as these criteria had been used previously to identify chemical series likely to have *in vivo* efficacy.<sup>12</sup>

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Lack of knowledge regarding the molecular target of compound **1** made optimization challenging, with no guide as to the potential pharmacophore, or which vectors were most likely to positively influence activity. We therefore focused on utilizing tractable chemistry that would facilitate a rapid exploration of SAR. Also, to maintain good solubility and hopefully improve metabolic stability, we aimed to reduce, or at least maintain, the Log *D* of the initial analogues. This led us to focus on the triazole substituent, as well as the 5-position of the naphthyridine as initial points for exploration.

**SAR of 7-Triazolyl Analogues.** Variations to the benzyl substituent of the triazole (Table 2), including substitutions on the phenyl position (exemplified by **2**), or on the methylene (exemplified by **3**), led to a ~10-fold loss in potency compared to **1**, although **3** did show an improvement in metabolic stability. A truncated analogue **4** was inactive, but we were encouraged by its improved solubility and metabolic stability. We thus replaced the 4-chlorophenyl group of **1** with more polar substituents, with the aim of regaining *in vitro* potency while maintaining a favorable absorption, distribution, metabolism, and excretion (ADME) profile. Morpholine-substituted **5** and pyrrolidinone-substituted **6** were synthesized and indeed proved to be both soluble and metabolically stable, although both compounds were essentially inactive. Switching to an amide as an isosteric replacement for the triazole was also investigated, and the matched pairs (**7** vs **1**) showed similar levels of potency, although the amide did not appear to show any clear advantage over the triazole as its mouse liver microsomal clearance was still not below the targeted 5 mL/min/g.

Table 2



R <sup>1</sup>	R <sup>2</sup>	Compound	Ld InMac <sup>a</sup> (pEC <sub>50</sub> )	THP-1 <sup>a</sup> (pEC <sub>50</sub> )	Cl <sub>i</sub> (mouse, mL/min/g) <sup>b</sup>	Aq Solubility (μM) <sup>c</sup>	Chrom LogD <sub>pH7.4</sub> <sup>11</sup>
H		<b>1</b>	6.5	4.5	16	219	4.1
H		<b>2</b>	5.6	4.4	ND <sup>d</sup>	ND <sup>d</sup>	ND <sup>d</sup>
H		<b>3</b>	5.3	<4.3	1.9	>250	ND <sup>d</sup>
H	CH <sub>3</sub>	<b>4</b>	<4.3	<4.3	3.3	>250	0.73
H		<b>5</b>	4.5	<4.3	0.8	219	0.5
H		<b>6</b>	<4.3	<4.3	<0.5	>250	ND <sup>d</sup>
		<b>7</b>	6.3	<4.3	10	>250	ND <sup>d</sup>
	CH <sub>3</sub>	<b>8</b>	<4.3	<4.3	3.1	>250	-0.2
	CH <sub>3</sub>	<b>9</b>	4.8	<4.3	14	>250	-0.6
	CH <sub>3</sub>	<b>10</b>	5.8	<4.3	3.4	219	4.4
	CH <sub>3</sub>	<b>11</b>	5.0	<4.3	3.1	>250	1.8
	CH <sub>3</sub>	<b>12</b>	<4.3	<4.3	<0.5	109	ND <sup>d</sup>
	CH <sub>3</sub>	<b>13</b>	<4.3	<4.3	0.6	250	1.5
	CH <sub>3</sub>	<b>14</b>	5.9	<4.3	9.4	160	ND <sup>d</sup>
	CH <sub>3</sub>	<b>15</b>	7.0	<4.3	1.4	>250	4.3
	CH <sub>3</sub>	<b>16</b>	6.2	<4.3	0.8	>250	3.2

Table 2. continued

<sup>a</sup>Ld InMac is the intramacrophage assay carried out in THP-1 cells with *L. donovani* amastigotes. Data are the result of at least three independent replicates, and standard deviations are  $\leq 0.4$ . <sup>b</sup>Cl<sub>i</sub> is mouse liver microsomal intrinsic clearance. <sup>c</sup>Aq solubility is kinetic aqueous solubility. <sup>d</sup>ND means not determined.

We next switched attention to the naphthyridyl 5-position. Initially, nitrogen-linked analogues were investigated. While both methylamine **8** and dimethylamine **9** were essentially inactive, larger amines such as *p*-chlorobenzylamine **10** and morpholine **11** both had pEC<sub>50</sub> values above 5, with good solubility and low clearance. Cyclic amides, such as **12**, proved to be inactive, as did sultam **13**, presumably due to the reduced electron density in the aromatic ring. Compound **13** was of particular interest as 5-sultam-substituted naphthyridines had been previously reported in a series of integrase inhibitors and were shown to impart very good pharmacokinetics (PK) properties.<sup>13</sup> Indeed, the lead compound from this series progressed as far as phase II clinical trials (compound **30**; Table 5). Further exploration of N-linked analogues failed to deliver compounds with the necessary potency for progression to *in vivo* studies, so we switched our focus to carbon-linked analogues. Interestingly, the unsubstituted phenyl analogue **14** showed reasonable potency (pEC<sub>50</sub> = 5.9), and further analogues showed ortho-substitution to be beneficial, with the *o*-trifluoromethyl analogue **15** giving a significant increase in antiparasitic activity (pEC<sub>50</sub> = 7.0), possibly driven by the increased lipophilicity, and the *o*-methoxy analogue **16** showing a good balance of potency, stability, and solubility (pEC<sub>50</sub> = 6.2, Cl<sub>i</sub> = 1.4 mL/min/g and aqueous solubility >250  $\mu$ M). Replacement of phenyl by aromatic heterocycles (such as pyridyl or pyrazolyl) was also explored, as was substitution on the other side of the naphthyridine (2-, 3-, and 4-positions), but these changes led to only weakly active compounds (data not shown).

**Profiling of Compound 16.** Compounds **15** and **16** both showed a promising balance of potency, solubility, and metabolic stability. Because of having higher metabolic stability (in mouse liver microsomes) and lower Chrom Log *D*, compound **16** was progressed into a VL *in vivo* efficacy study, carried out in our previously described VL mouse model.<sup>7</sup> Mice were dosed orally with the standard antileishmanial drug miltefosine, or with **16** dosed intraperitoneal (ip) two times daily for 5 days post infection (although **16** had a suitable profile for oral dosing, we elected to dose ip to maximize exposure and increase our chances of demonstrating *in vivo* proof of concept for the series). Parasite load was determined in the livers of animals 3 days after cessation of treatment, and parasite burden was expressed in Leishman Donovan units (LDUs, the mean number of amastigotes per liver cell  $\times$  mg weight of liver). The blood exposure of compound **16** was also determined in dosed animals on days 1 and 5 to better understand the PK/pharmacodynamics (PD) relationship of the series. According to our project criteria, a compound needs to reduce parasite burden by >70% before being considered suitable for progression to lead-optimization, while a reduction of >95% would be considered suitable for a preclinical development candidate.<sup>12</sup>

In the study, miltefosine behaved as expected, reducing parasite levels by >99% at 30 mg/kg qd. After twice daily ip dosing at 50 mg/kg, compound **16** reduced parasite burden in mouse liver by 46%. This provided an early proof of concept for this series but fell short of our target of >70% parasite reduction.

Upon examining the blood samples taken on days 1 and 5, it was clear that **16** was rapidly cleared from blood, with unbound concentrations of compound exceeding EC<sub>99</sub> only during the first hour post-dose (Table 3). Further examination of the samples revealed the presence of glucuronidated adducts of **16**, suggesting secondary metabolism as the key driver of the low exposure.

Table 3. Blood Levels of **16**, Measured on Days 1 and 5 of a Mouse Efficacy Study, Dosing ip at 50 mg/kg b.i.d.

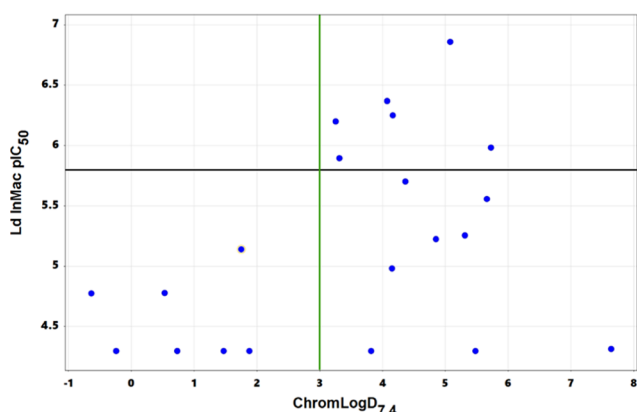
AUC <sub>(0-t)</sub> ( $\mu$ M min)		C <sub>max</sub> ( $\mu$ M)		T <sub>max</sub> (h)	
day 1	day 5	day 1	day 5	day 1	day 5
1236	606	25.2	4.2	0.5	0.5

Glucuronidation is a means of increasing water solubility of small molecules, facilitating their elimination from the body in urine. It involves transfer of the glucuronic acid component of uridine diphosphate glucuronic acid to a suitable substrate, catalyzed by UDP-glucuronosyltransferase (UGT), and occurs mainly in the liver.<sup>14</sup> Glucuronidation occurs at nucleophilic sites such as R-OH, R-NH<sub>2</sub>, or R-COOH, which can be present in the small molecule, or generated *via* phase I metabolism. Due to the low rates of microsomal clearance of **16**, alongside our *in vivo* data, we surmised that glucuronidation was occurring on the parent compound, most likely at the phenolic OH or the triazole N-H. Also, the observed reduction of parasite load, despite the high *in vivo* clearance, suggested that reducing glucuronidation to increase the duration of exposure above EC<sub>99</sub> would be a key strategy to progress the series toward lead-optimization.

As a means of measuring glucuronidation *in vitro*, **16** was assessed in a mouse liver hepatocyte assay. Unfortunately, **16** showed similar stability to that seen in mouse liver microsomes (0.9 mL/min/g in microsomes vs 1.4 mL/min/g in hepatocytes) with negligible amounts of the glucuronide adduct being observed. This suggested that there was little involvement of the hepatic UDP-glucuronosyltransferase in the *in vivo* phase II metabolism. This result made series progression challenging, as there was no way to determine the potential impact of glucuronidation without running an *in vivo* study, limiting our understanding of the SAR surrounding the observed secondary metabolism.

One possible strategy to identify compounds with improved metabolic stability would be to reduce lipophilicity. This had been shown previously to be a potential strategy for reducing glucuronidation,<sup>15</sup> however, as shown in Figure 1, this was very challenging within this compound series. Looking at measured log *D* (Chrom Log *D*<sub>7.4</sub>),<sup>11</sup> analogues with Chrom Log *D*<sub>7.4</sub> values below 3 were generally only weakly active, with pEC<sub>50</sub>'s above 5.8 only being achieved where Chrom Log *D*<sub>7.4</sub> was greater than 3. In our experience, this is a common problem when trying to optimize series phenotypically, where increasing potency without increasing lipophilicity is very challenging; this highlights a key advantage of running structure-enabled programs. Because of this, alternative approaches to improving metabolic stability were required.





**Figure 1.** Chrom Log  $D_{7.4}$  vs intramacrophage potency (Ld InMac  $pEC_{50}$ ) for all compounds presented. The green line represents Chrom Log  $D_{7.4}$  = 3; the black line represents Ld InMac  $pEC_{50}$  = 5.8.

**SAR of the Naphthyridine Core.** Our initial approach to reduce potential phase II metabolism within the series was therefore to investigate the SAR around the phenolic hydroxyl group and the triazole. Understanding which of these features was important for antiparasitic activity might enable us to synthesize potent analogues with lower potential for glucuronidation. As shown in Table 4, removal or methylation of the naphthyridine 8-hydroxyl group led to a loss of antiparasitic activity compared to **16** (**17** and **18**, respectively), although **18** was close to the targeted  $pEC_{50}$  of 5.8. Also, replacement of triazole with oxadiazole to remove the nucleophilic N–H led to a loss of activity (**19**). Synthesis of other analogues to explore the naphthyridine SAR proved extremely challenging within the triazole subseries, so to more rapidly address this, we switched attention to the bioisosteric replacement of triazole with amide; this change had previously been seen to have limited effect on potency (e.g., **1** vs **7**) and allowed much more straightforward synthesis of the analogues of interest. Thus, deletion of the naphthyridine N-6 of **7** led to a compound that was toxic to the host THP-1 cells, and deletion of naphthyridine N-1 led to loss of antiparasitic activity (**20** and **21**, respectively). Moving to a scaffold that trapped the phenolic OH as a carbonyl removed all antiparasitic activity despite the parent amides having  $pEC_{50}$  values >6.0 (comparing **22** to **28** and **23** to **27**). Finally, we examined Raltegravir (**24**), an inhibitor of human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) integrase marketed as a treatment for HIV.<sup>16</sup> As shown in Figure 2, **24** contains the key acceptor–donor–acceptor binding motif identified within the naphthyridine series. Although **24** was inactive in our *in vitro* *Leishmania* assays, we surmised that transferring the known SAR of the naphthyridine core onto the Raltegravir scaffold could be a viable strategy to regain activity. Unfortunately, as exemplified by **25**, none of the analogues based on this scaffold were active. From this round of synthesis, we concluded that we were unlikely to identify active compounds without the acceptor–donor–acceptor binding motif of the 7-substituted-1,6-naphthyridin-8-ol core.

**SAR of 7-Carboxamide Analogues.** Previous SAR demonstrated that replacing the triazole with an amide led to compounds such as **7** that retained antiparasitic activity. Since **7** itself was metabolically unstable ( $Cl_i$  = 10 mg/mL/g), we became interested in transferring the SAR from the triazole subseries (e.g., **16**) to investigate its impact on metabolic stability, with a particular focus on glucuronidation. To this end,

we synthesized **26** (Table 5) as a direct analogue of triazole **16**. Although it did not show sufficient potency for progression into efficacy studies, it had reasonable aqueous solubility (219  $\mu$ M) and good metabolic stability ( $Cl_i$  = 0.9 mL/min/g) and was therefore progressed into a mouse PK study to assess the extent of *in vivo* glucuronidation. After dosing (50 mg/kg ip) and analyzing the metabolites generated (Figure 3), there was little evidence of glucuronidation, with the major metabolism observed being hydroxylation. As significant quantities of parent were still present 8 h post-dose, this supported a strategy of switching to the amide series to reduce phase II metabolism and improve *in vivo* exposure.

With this in mind, we further explored the SAR of the amide subseries, as shown in Table 5. We synthesized a set of benzyl amides, where 4-methoxy analogue **27** and  $\alpha$ -methyl-4-fluoro analogue **28** both gave very encouraging profiles, meeting progression criteria in terms of potency, metabolic stability, and clearance. Alternatively, nonaromatic amides were explored, and although none were identified with suitable profiles for progression, cyclopropylmethyl analogue **29** did demonstrate reasonable potency. Due to its impressive *in vitro* potency, we selected **28** for progression into an *in vivo* PK study. However, upon dosing (50 mg/kg ip), the compound proved to be toxic, rapidly giving symptoms (within 3.5 h) requiring termination of the experiment.

We noted that a related compound from Merck, L-870,810 (**30**),<sup>17</sup> was reported as a clinical candidate targeting HIV integrase, which progressed as far as phase II clinical trials. Compound **30** was inactive in our *in vitro* efficacy assays, but the report, alongside the *in vivo* data for **26**, suggested that compounds with substitutions in the naphthyridine 5-position could have suitable profiles for *in vivo* studies. Also, introducing substituents into the 5-naphthyridyl position had been a successful strategy for improving metabolic stability and potency in the triazole subseries. We therefore investigated a range of 5-substituted naphthyridyl analogues (Table 5). THP-amine **31** and morpholine **32** lost potency compared to parent compound **7**, so we switched attention back to 5-phenylnaphthyridines. Previously identified groups were combined (the 4-methoxyphenyl of **16** and the cyclopropylmethyl amide of **29**), leading to **33**, which unfortunately did not deliver the expected increase in potency. Further combinations of nonaromatic amides with differently substituted 5-phenylnaphthyridines were synthesized, and while changing the phenyl substituent gave flat SAR and no advantage over previous compounds, exploration of the amide led to **34** with a *trans*-4-methoxycyclopropylamide. Compound **34** gave a good balance of potency, solubility, and microsomal stability and was therefore selected for a mouse PK study. Disappointingly, when dosed at 50 mg/kg ip, the mice again displayed the similar symptoms as with compound **28**, and the study was terminated after 60 min.

**Profiling of **16**, **28**, and **34**.** Due to the encouraging results within the series (**16** showing low-level efficacy and **26** giving a good PK profile), we were keen to understand the origins of the observed toxicity of **28** and **34**. As previously mentioned, compound **30** progressed as far as phase II clinical trials as an HIV integrase inhibitor, and although it was inactive against VL, we were keen to assess whether there was scope to progress our related series further. To this end, two studies were conducted in parallel; a screen against receptors with known links to toxicity and investigation of mode of action (MoA).

First, the compounds which were poorly tolerated in mice, **28** and **34**, were screened against a panel of >30 receptors with

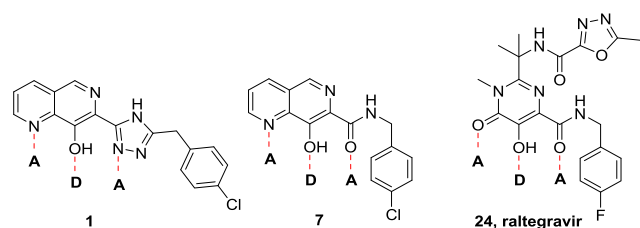
Table 4

	Compound	Ld InMac <sup>a</sup> pEC <sub>50</sub>	THP-1 <sup>a</sup> pEC <sub>50</sub>	Cl <sub>i</sub> (mouse, mL/min/g) <sup>b</sup>	Aq Solubility (μM) <sup>c</sup>	Chrom LogD <sub>pH7.4</sub> <sup>11</sup>
	<b>17</b>	<4.3	<4.3	ND <sup>d</sup>	>250	ND <sup>d</sup>
	<b>18</b>	5.6	<4.3	2	>250	5.7
	<b>19</b>	<4.3	<4.3	<0.5	>250	3.8
	<b>20</b>	4.8	5.2	19	219	4.8
	<b>21</b>	<4.3	<4.3	28	39	7.6
	<b>22</b>	<4.3	<4.3	0.7	>250	ND <sup>d</sup>
	<b>23</b>	<4.3	<4.3	0.7	>250	1.9
	<b>24</b>	<4.3	<4.3	ND <sup>d</sup>	>250	ND <sup>d</sup>
	<b>25</b>	<4.3	<4.3	<0.5	173	5.5

<sup>a</sup>Ld InMac is the intramacrophage assay carried out in THP-1 cells with *L. donovani* amastigotes. Data are the result of at least three independent replicates, and standard deviations are  $\leq 0.4$ . <sup>b</sup>Cl<sub>i</sub> is mouse liver microsomal intrinsic clearance. <sup>c</sup>Aq solubility is kinetic aqueous solubility. <sup>d</sup>ND means not determined.

known links to *in vivo* toxicity (GSK-enhanced cross-screen panel (eXP)).<sup>18</sup> Compound **28** gave a pIC<sub>50</sub> value of 5.4 against monoamine oxidase A, highlighting a slight risk of drug–drug

interactions and possible side effects, and a pIC<sub>50</sub> value of 4.9 in a phenotypic cell health assay, suggesting possible effects on mitochondrial integrity that could lead to an increased risk of



**Figure 2.** Highlighting the acceptor–donor–acceptor motifs of triazole analogue **1**, amide analogue **7**, and Raltegravir **24**.

hepatotoxicity. Compound **34** also showed potency in the cell health assay, alongside activity in a bile salt export pump (BSEP) assay (pIC<sub>50</sub> value of 4.8, hepatotoxicity risk) and a

phospholipidosis assay. From this, it was not clear whether the effects seen in the receptor screen were related to the observed *in vivo* toxicity.

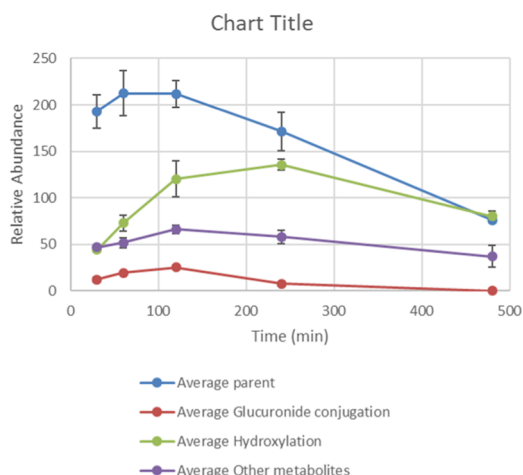
Alongside these screens, mode-of-action studies were initiated focusing on **10**, **16**, and **28**, as representatives of both the triazole and amide subseries. We were particularly interested in confirming that the compounds inhibited a shared target, identifying off-target effects, and understanding the source of the observed toxicity. The results of these studies have been reported previously and demonstrated that the compounds act as nonspecific chelators of divalent metal cations, in particular Zn<sup>2+</sup>, Fe<sup>2+</sup>, and Cu<sup>2+</sup>, and that this property is likely responsible for their antiparasitic activity.<sup>19</sup> Indeed, the propensity of these compounds to nonspecifically chelate divalent cations may well explain the observed *in vivo* toxicity associated with this series.

**Table 5**

R1	R2	Compound	Ld InMac <sup>a</sup> (pEC <sub>50</sub> )	THP-1 <sup>a</sup> (pEC <sub>50</sub> )	Cl <sub>i</sub> (mouse, mL/min/g) <sup>b</sup>	Aq. Solubility (μM) <sup>c</sup>	Chrom LogD <sub>pH7.4</sub> <sup>11</sup>
		<b>1</b>	6.5	4.5	16	219	4.1
	<b>-CH<sub>3</sub></b>	<b>26</b>	5.0	4.4	0.9	219	4.2
<b>H</b>		<b>7</b>	6.3	<4.3	10	>250	ND <sup>d</sup>
<b>H</b>		<b>27</b>	6.3	<4.3	2.6	>250	4.2
<b>H</b>		<b>28</b>	6.8	5.3	3.7	>250	5.1
<b>H</b>		<b>29</b>	5.9	<4.3	13	ND <sup>d</sup>	3.3
		<b>30</b>	<4.3	4.5	2.0	> 250	ND <sup>d</sup>
		<b>31</b>	5.3	<4.3	2.2	>250	5.3
		<b>32</b>	<4.3	<4.3	24	219	ND <sup>d</sup>
		<b>33</b>	5.7	<4.3	8	>250	ND <sup>d</sup>
		<b>34</b>	6.0	4.4	1.4	>250	5.7

<sup>a</sup>Ld InMac is the intramacrophage assay carried out in THP-1 cells with *L. donovani* amastigotes. Data are the result of at least three independent replicates, and standard deviations are ≤0.4. <sup>b</sup>Cl<sub>i</sub> is mouse liver microsomal intrinsic clearance. <sup>c</sup>Aq solubility is kinetic aqueous solubility. <sup>d</sup>ND means not determined.





**Figure 3.** PK profile of **26**, showing levels of parent, glucuronide adduct, major hydroxylated metabolite, and other minor metabolites. Data are based on two replicates, with error bars representing the range of the data from the two runs. Blood/water (30  $\mu$ L, 1:2) were collected following 50 mg/kg ip administration to Balb C mice at prescribed time points; 90  $\mu$ L of acetonitrile (ACN) was then added to each sample and the samples were centrifuged for 5 min at 7000 rpm; 90  $\mu$ L of supernatant was removed and added to 50  $\mu$ L of Milli-Q water before ultrahigh-performance liquid chromatography–quadrupole time-of-flight (UPLC Q-TOF) analysis.

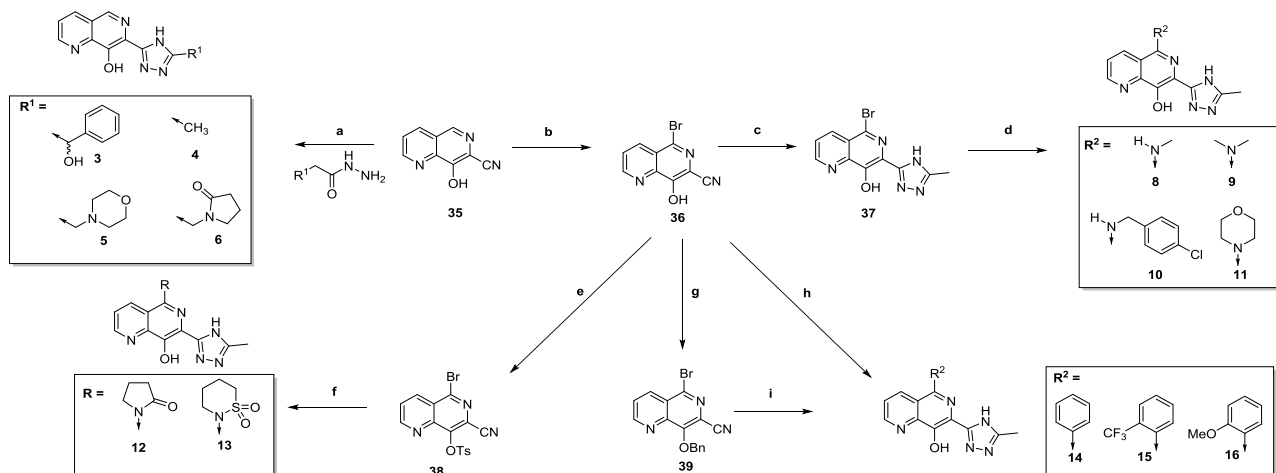
**Chemistry.** To access the required analogues, a number of different approaches were needed, as illustrated in *scheme 1–3*. Compounds **1** and **2** were previously reported,<sup>20</sup> and synthesis of the remaining 7-triazolyl-8-hydroxy naphthyridines started from 7-cyanonaphthyridine **35**<sup>20</sup> (*Scheme 1*), where cyclization with substituted hydrazides under acidic conditions led to compounds **3–6**. To access 5-substituted analogues, **35** could be brominated with *N*-bromosuccinimide (NBS) to give **36** and subsequently cyclized to give **37**, which was treated with a

suitable amine to give **8–11**. For **12** and **13**, protection of the phenol proved to be necessary. Hence, **36** could be tosyl-protected to give **38**, followed by either Buchwald–Hartwig coupling to introduce the pyrrolidinone (**12**) or copper coupling with 1,2-thiazinane 1,1-dioxide to introduce the sultam (**13**). Alternatively, **36** could be directly coupled with phenylboronic acid to give **14**, or benzyl-protected to give **39**, which could be coupled to give **15** and **16**.

To fully explore the SAR around the naphthyridine ring, and also to introduce alternative heterocycles to replace the triazole, a number of analogues required bespoke synthesis. Analogues **17**, **18**, **20**, and **21** were synthesized according to established procedures and are described in the *Supporting Information*, with the synthesis of **19**, **22**, **23**, and **25** highlighted in *Scheme 2*. Thus, 5-bromo-8-methoxy-1,6-naphthyridine-7-carboxylic acid **40** was cyclized with acetylhydrazide to give **41**, followed by Suzuki coupling and deprotection of the 8-methoxy group to give oxadiazole **19**. Compound **22** was synthesized from 3-chloropicolinic acid *via* conversion to the acid chloride, condensation with ethyl 3-(dimethylamino)acrylate, cyclization with methylamine, and ester hydrolysis to give **42**. This was then coupled with 4-fluoro- $\alpha$ -(*R*)-methylbenzylamine to give **22**. To access **23**, methyl 3-fluoropicolinate was condensed with *tert*-butyl acetate to give **43**, which was treated with 4-acetamidobenzenesulfonyl azide (ABSA),  $\text{PBU}_3$ , then 1,8-diazabicyclo[5.4.0]undec-7-ene (DBU)/iodomethane to give cyclized **44**, which was subsequently hydrolyzed and coupled with 4-methoxybenzylamine to give **23**. Finally, **25** was synthesized according to a previously published route such that 2-cyanoanisole was treated with *N*-methylhydroxylamine and cyclized to **45**. Thermal rearrangement gave **46**, which was treated with 4-fluoro- $\alpha$ -(*R*)-methylbenzylamine to give **25**.<sup>21</sup>

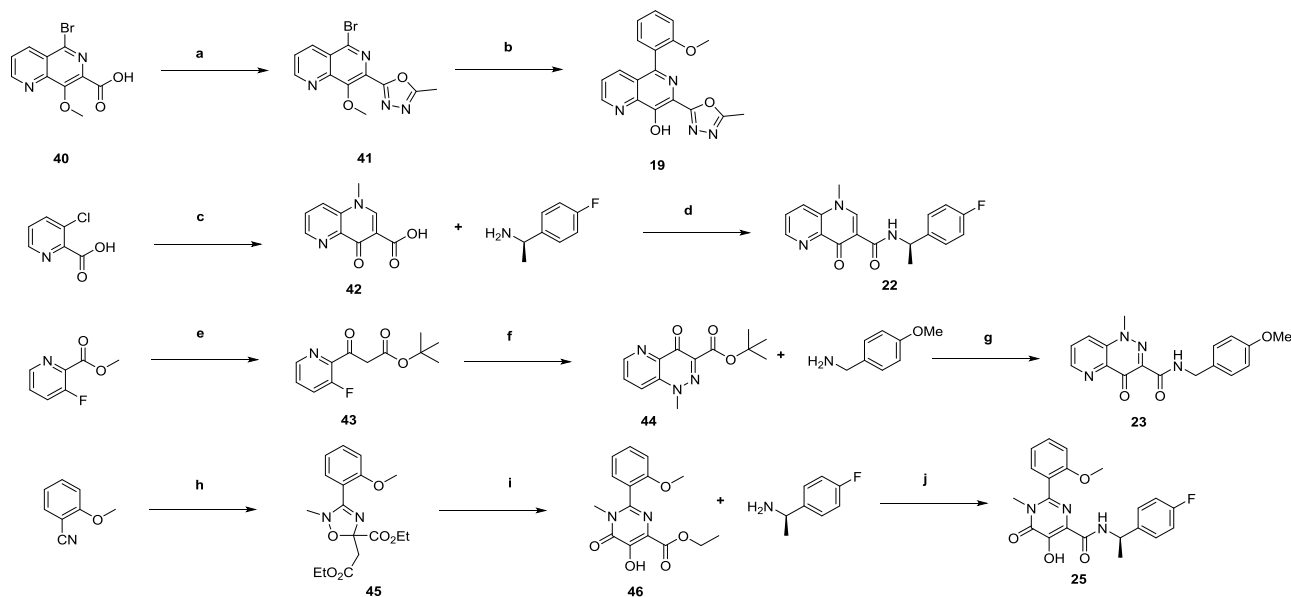
7-Carboxamide analogues were synthesized from the corresponding ester **47** according to *Scheme 3*. Amides **7** and **27–29** were synthesized directly from the ester by treating with a

**Scheme 1**



<sup>a</sup>Reagents and conditions: (a) 1,4-dioxane/acetic acid, 140–200 °C, 22–38%; (b) NBS, dichloromethane (DCM), 2 h, 84%; (c) acetohydrazide, 1,4-dioxane/acetic acid, 200 °C, 30 min, 45%; (d) relevant amine, *N,N*-diisopropylethylamine (DIPEA), *N*-methyl-2-pyrrolidone (NMP), 180 °C, 1–18 h, 25–50%; (e)  $\text{TsCl}$ ,  $\text{NEt}_3$ , DCM, 40 °C, 3 h, 83%; (f) i. for **12**: pyrrolidin-2-one,  $\text{Cs}_2\text{CO}_3$ ,  $\text{Pd}(\text{OAc})_2$ , Xantphos, 1,4-dioxane, 65 °C. For **13**: 1,2-thiazinane 1,1-dioxide,  $\text{Cs}_2\text{CO}_3$ ,  $\text{Pd}_2(\text{dba})_3$ , Xantphos, 1,4-dioxane, 65 °C. ii.  $\text{NaOMe}$ , dimethylformamide (DMF), 50 °C. iii. Acetohydrazide, 1,4-dioxane/acetic acid, 180 °C, 2 h, 7–16% over three steps; (g)  $\text{BnBr}$ ,  $\text{PPH}_3$ , diisopropyl azodicarboxylate (DIAD), tetrahydrofuran (THF), 0 °C, 18 h, 15%; (h) phenylboronic acid,  $\text{K}_3\text{PO}_4$ ,  $\text{Pd}(\text{dppf})\text{Cl}_2 \cdot \text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , DMF/water, 130 °C, then acetohydrazide, 1,4-dioxane/acetic acid, 200 °C, 45 min, 3% over two steps (**14**); (i) i. relevant boronic acid,  $\text{K}_3\text{PO}_4$ , tetrakis, 1,4-dioxane/water, 120 °C, 1.5 h. ii. Acetohydrazide, 1,4-dioxane/acetic acid, 180 °C, 18 h, 22% (**15**)/24% (**16**) over two steps.

Scheme 2



<sup>a</sup>Reagents and conditions: (a) i. 1-ethyl-3-(3-dimethylaminopropyl)carbodiimide (EDCI), DIPEA, hydroxybenzotriazole (HOBT), acethydrazide, DCM, 0 °C, 18 h. ii. PPh<sub>3</sub>, CCl<sub>4</sub>, NEt<sub>3</sub>, MeCN, 60 °C, 2 h, 53%. (b) i. Phenylboronic acid, Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, tetrakis, 1,4-dioxane/water, 120 °C, 18 h. ii. Trimethylchlorosilane, NaI, MeCN, reflux, 18 h, 44% over two steps; (c) i. oxalyl chloride, DCM, RT then 3-ethoxy-3-oxo-propanoic acid, BuLi, −78 °C, 1 h. ii. DMF-dimethylacetamide (DMA), DMF, 100 °C, 1 h. iii. MeNH<sub>2</sub>, ether/EtOH, RT, 1 h. iv. 1 M NaOH, MeOH, RT, 2 h, 69% over four steps; (d) DIPEA, T3P, DMF, 2 h, 8%; (e) lithium diisopropylamide (LDA), *tert*-butyl acetate, THF, −78 °C, 2 h, quant. (f) i. ABSA, NEt<sub>3</sub>, MeCN, 0 °C, 18 h. ii. PBu<sub>3</sub>, THF, RT, 15 min. iii. DBU, MeI, MeCN, RT, 18 h, 32% over three steps. (g) i. Trifluoroacetyl (TFA), DCM, RT, 18 h. ii. EDCI, HOBT, DIPEA, DCM, 16 h, 88% over two steps. (h) i. MeNH–OH, Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, water/EtOH, 28 h, 80 °C. ii. Diethyl acetylenedicarboxylate, EtOH, RT, 1 h, 61% over two steps. (i) *p*-Xylene, reflux, 2 days, 41%; (j) toluene, reflux, 18 h, 46%.

the relevant amine at high temperature. To access the desired 6-functionalized analogues, **47** was brominated with NBS to give **48**, tosyl-protected to give **49**, and converted to sultam **30**.<sup>22</sup> Alternatively, **48** could be treated with 4-chlorobenzylamine to give **51a**, then coupled with another amine to give **31** and **32**. Compound **49** could also be coupled with 2-methoxyphenylboronic acid and hydrolyzed to give **50**, which was coupled with *trans*-4-methoxycyclohexylamine to give **34**. Alternatively, **48** could be treated directly with a relevant amine to give **51b** and **51c**, with subsequent Suzuki coupling with 2-methoxyphenylboronic acid giving **26** and **33**.

## CONCLUSIONS

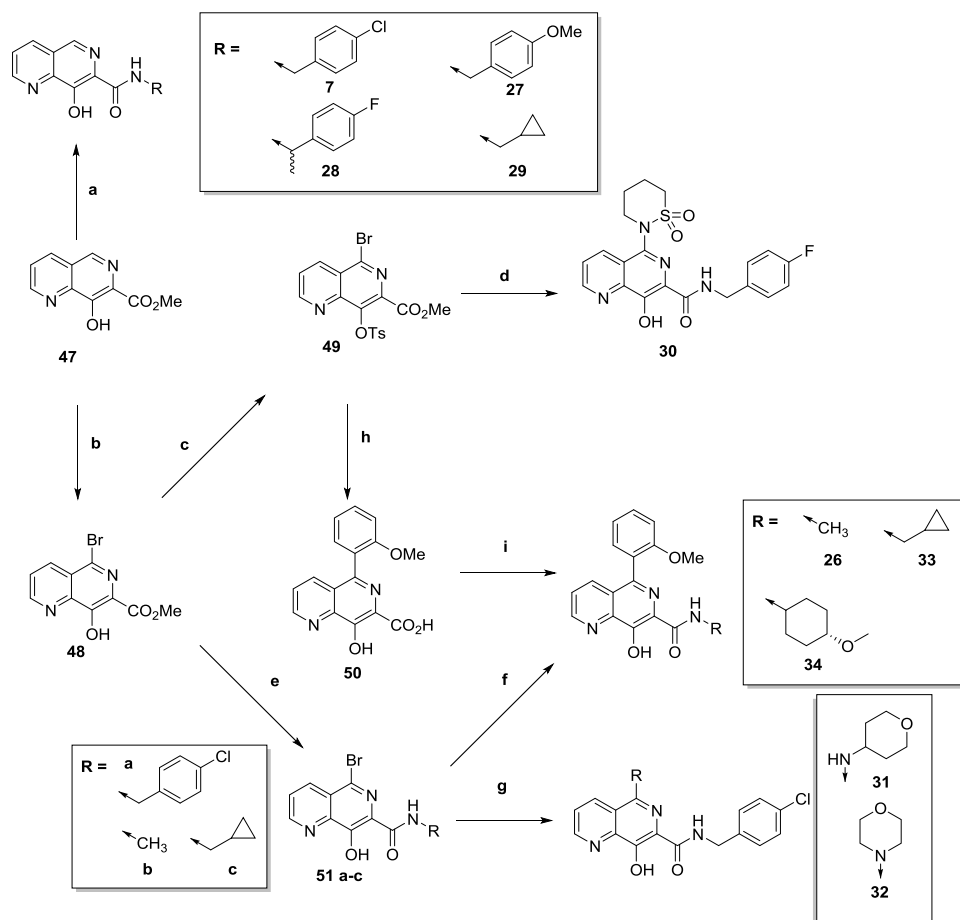
To identify new compound series with the potential to be developed as new therapeutics for VL, a collection of 1.8 M compounds from the GSK corporate collection was screened against *L. donovani* *in vitro*. One hit series identified from this, exemplified by **1**, was selected for a hit-to-lead program. *In vivo* studies of an early compound, **16**, demonstrated that the series had the potential to reduce parasite burden, but that glucuronidation was a potential barrier to series progression. Scaffold hopping from the core triazole to an amide was a key strategy for progressing the series, leading to **28** with a very good *in vitro* profile. Dosing of **28** identified an issue with toxicity for the series and further chemistry failed to identify compounds that did not carry this liability. MoA studies suggested that the antiparasitic activity, and the toxicity, was likely driven by chelation of divalent metal cations. Based on these findings, we concluded that attempting to develop compounds within this series that would separate antiparasitic activity from inherent toxicity would be extremely challenging and unlikely to succeed. With this in mind, work on the series was halted. This

demonstrates the importance of understanding the mode of action from a very early stage in the drug discovery process, when working to progress phenotypically active hit compounds.

## EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

**Chemistry.** Chemicals and solvents were purchased from Aldrich Chemical Company, Fluka, ABCR, VWR, Acros Organics, Fluorochem, and Alfa Aesar and were used as received. Air- and moisture-sensitive reactions were carried out under an inert atmosphere of argon in oven-dried glassware. Analytical thin-layer chromatography (TLC) was performed on precoated TLC plates (layer 0.20 mm silica gel 60 with fluorescent indicator UV254, from Merck). Developed plates were air-dried and analyzed under a UV lamp (UV254/365 nm). Flash column chromatography was performed using prepacked silica gel cartridges (230–400 mesh, 40–63 μm, from SiliCycle) using a Teledyne ISCO CombiFlash Companion, or CombiFlash Retrieve. <sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker Avance DPX 500 spectrometer (<sup>1</sup>H at 500.1 MHz, <sup>13</sup>C at 125.8 MHz). Chemical shifts (δ) are expressed in parts per million (ppm) recorded using the residual solvent as the internal reference in all cases. Signal splitting patterns are described as singlet (s), doublet (d), triplet (t), quartet (q), multiplet (m), broad (b), or a combination thereof. Coupling constants (J) are quoted to the nearest 0.1 Hz. Liquid chromatography–mass spectrometry (LC–MS) analyses were performed with either an Agilent HPLC 1100 series connected to a Bruker Daltonics MicroTOF or an Agilent Technologies 1200 series HPLC connected to an Agilent Technologies 6130 quadrupole LC/MS, where both instruments were connected to an Agilent diode array detector. Mobile phase was water/acetonitrile + 0.1% HCOOH, or water/acetonitrile + 0.1% NH<sub>3</sub>; linear gradient, 80:20–5:95 over 3.5 min and then held for 1.5 min; flow rate, 0.5 mL/min. All intermediates had a measured purity ≥90%, and all assay compounds had a measured purity of ≥95%, as determined using this analytical LC–MS system (total ion current (TIC) and UV). High-resolution electrospray measurements were performed on a Bruker

Scheme 3



<sup>a</sup>Reagents and conditions: (a) i. EtOH, reflux, 18 h, 65%; (b) NBS, DCM, room temperature (RT), 2 h, 93%; (c) TsCl, NEt<sub>3</sub>, DCM, 40 °C, 2 days, 49%; (d) i. 1,2-thiazinane 1,1-dioxide, Cs<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, Pd<sub>2</sub>(dba)<sub>3</sub>, Xantphos, 1,4-dioxane, 65 °C, 24 h. ii. NaOMe, DMF, 50 °C, 24 h. iii. 4-Fluorobenzylamine, T3P, DIPEA, DMF, RT, 18 h, 11% over three steps; (e) relevant amine, EtOH, 100 °C, 18 h, 45–86%; (f) (2-methoxyphenyl)boronic acid, K<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>, Pd(dppf)Cl<sub>2</sub>-DCM, 1,4-dioxane/water, 140 °C, 1 h, 30% (**26**)/38% (**33**); (g) relevant amine, DIPEA, NMP, 150–180 °C, 5 h, 17% (**31**)/33% (**32**); (h) i. (2-methoxyphenyl)boronic acid, tetrakis, Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, 1,4-dioxane/water, 60 °C, 18 h. ii. NaOMe, MeOH, 50 °C, 15 min. iii. LiOH, water, 60 °C, 18 h, 58% over three steps; (i) trans-4-methoxycyclohexanamine, DIPEA, T3P, 50 °C, 18 h, 56%.

Daltonics MicrOTOF mass spectrometer. Microwave-assisted chemistry was performed using a Biotage Initiator Microwave Synthesizer.

**7-(3-(Hydroxy(phenyl)methyl)-1H-1,2,4-triazol-5-yl)-1,6-naphthyridin-8-ol (3).** **35** (100 mg, 0.58 mmol) and 2-hydroxy-2-phenylacetohydrazide (288 mg, 1.74 mmol) in 1,4-dioxane (1.5 mL)/acetic acid (0.5 mL) were heated in microwave at 140 °C for 2 h. The mixture was cooled to RT, and the resulting solid was collected, washed with 1,4-dioxane, and dried under vacuum to give **3** (43 mg, 0.13 mmol, 22%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO)-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 14.90 (s, 1H), 12.29 (bs, 1H), 9.15 (s, 1H), 9.02 (s, 1H), 8.63–8.56 (m, 1H), 7.82–7.74 (m, 1H), 7.56–7.50 (m, 2H), 7.42–7.24 (m, 3H), 6.23 (bs, 1H), 5.91 (bs, 1H); *m/z* [M + H]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>14</sub>N<sub>5</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, 320.1147; found, 320.1146.

**7-(3-(Methyl-1H-1,2,4-triazol-5-yl)-1,6-naphthyridin-8-ol (4).** **35** (30 mg, 0.16 mmol) and acetylhydrazide (58.4 mg, 0.79 mmol) in 1,4-dioxane (2 mL)/acetic acid (0.2 mL) were heated in microwave at 200 °C for 15 min. The mixture was cooled, solvent-evaporated, and the crude material was purified by mass-directed prep. HPLC to give **4** (10 mg, 0.04 mmol, 27%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 14.74 (s, 1H), 12.45 (s, 1H), 9.18–9.15 (m, 1H), 9.04 (s, 1H), 8.63–8.58 (m, 1H), 7.83–7.76 (m, 1H), 2.45 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 158.8, 158.5, 154.5, 149.5, 143.9, 141.9, 136.7, 125.6, 124.8, 12.8; *m/z* [M + H]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>10</sub>N<sub>5</sub>O, 228.0885; found, 228.0886.

**7-(3-(Morpholinomethyl)-1H-1,2,4-triazol-5-yl)-1,6-naphthyridin-8-ol (5).** **35** (150 mg, 0.88 mmol) and 2-(4-morpholinyl)-acetohydrazide (419 mg, 2.63 mmol) in 1,4-dioxane (3 mL)/acetic acid

(0.3 mL) were heated in microwave at 180 °C for 2 h. The resulting solution was evaporated, cyclohexane (3 × 10 mL) was added, and evaporated. Acetone (15 mL) was added, and the resulting solid was collected by filtration, washed with MeOH, and dried to give **5** (105 mg, 0.34 mmol, 38%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 14.83 (s, 1H), 9.18–9.16 (m, 1H), 9.04 (s, 1H), 8.63–8.60 (m, 1H), 8.15 (s, 1H), 7.82–7.78 (m, 1H), 3.73 (s, 2H), 3.63–3.58 (m, 4H), 2.60–2.54 (m, 4H, under solvent peak); *m/z* [M + H]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N<sub>6</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, 313.1413; found, 313.1411.

**1-((5-(8-Hydroxy-1,6-naphthyridin-7-yl)-1H-1,2,4-triazol-3-yl)methyl)pyrrolidin-2-one (6).** **6** was synthesized by an analogous method to **3**, from **35** (100 mg, 0.58 mmol) and 2-(2-oxopyrrolidin-1-yl)acetylhydrazide (273 mg, 1.74 mmol). The crude material was purified by mass-directed prep. HPLC to give **6** (70 mg, 0.15 mmol, 26%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 9.20–9.17 (m, 1H), 9.06 (s, 1H), 8.65–8.61 (m, 1H), 7.83–7.80 (m, 1H), 4.61 (s, 2H), 3.47–3.44 (m, 2H), 2.34–2.29 (m, 2H), 2.04–1.95 (m, 2H); *m/z* [M + H]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>15</sub>N<sub>6</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, 311.1256; found, 311.1260.

**N-(4-Chlorobenzyl)-8-hydroxy-1,6-naphthyridine-7-carboxamide (7).** A mixture of **47** (51 mg, 0.25 mmol) and 4-chlorobenzylamine (701 mg, 0.5 mmol) in EtOH (4 mL) was stirred at 80 °C for 18 h. The hot reaction mixture was poured into a solution of acetic acid (0.5 mL) in water (4 mL). After stirring for 10 min, cold water (15 mL) was added and stirred at RT for 40 min. The resulting solid was collected, washed with water, and dried to give **7** (42 mg, 0.13 mmol, 53%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 13.67 (s, 1H), 9.18–9.16 (m, 1H), 8.93



(bs, 1H), 8.61 (d,  $J = 7.7$  Hz, 1H), 7.86–7.82 (m, 1H), 7.44–7.39 (m, 4H), 4.55 (d,  $J = 6.5$  Hz, 2H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  170.1, 154.6, 142.6, 138.4, 136.5, 132.0, 129.9, 128.8, 127.0, 126.0, 125.4, 42.1;  $m/z$   $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{13}\text{N}_3\text{O}_2\text{Cl}$ , 314.0696; found, 314.0695.

**7-(3-Methyl-1H-1,2,4-triazol-5-yl)-5-(methylamino)-1,6-naphthyridin-8-ol (8).** A mixture of **37** (100 mg, 0.33 mmol), methylamine (327  $\mu\text{L}$ , 0.653 mmol, 2 N in THF), and DIPEA (0.171 mL, 0.980 mmol) in NMP (2 mL) was stirred at 180 °C for 18 h in a sealed tube. Further, methylamine (327  $\mu\text{L}$ , 0.653 mmol, 2 N in THF) was added and stirring was continued for further 18 h. The solvent was evaporated, DCM (3 mL) was added, and the resulting solid was collected and purified by mass-directed prep. HPLC to give **8** (21 mg, 0.82 mmol, 25%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  14.06 (s, 1H), 10.97 (s, 1H), 8.94–8.91 (m, 1H), 8.54 (d,  $J = 7.9$  Hz, 1H), 7.57–7.51 (m, 1H), 7.29 (bs, 1H), 2.97 (d,  $J = 3.8$  Hz, 3H), 2.33 (s, 3H);  $m/z$  257.2  $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ .

**5-(Dimethylamino)-7-(3-methyl-1H-1,2,4-triazol-5-yl)-1,6-naphthyridin-8-ol (9).** A mixture of **37** (100 mg, 0.33 mmol), dimethylamine (0.327 mL, 0.653 mmol, 2 M in THF), and DIPEA (171  $\mu\text{L}$ , 0.98 mmol) in NMP (2 mL) was stirred at 180 °C for 18 h in a sealed tube. Further dimethylamine (0.327 mL, 0.653 mmol, 2 M in THF) was added and stirring was continued for a further 18 h. The solvent was evaporated, and the crude residue was purified by flash chromatography (0–50% EtOAc/EtOH (3:1)/cyclohexanes) to give **9** (34 mg, 0.13 mmol, 38%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  14.20 (s, 1H), 11.47 (bs, 1H), 8.99–8.96 (m, 1H), 8.46 (d,  $J = 8.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.61–7.56 (m, 1H), 2.93 (s, 6H), 2.35 (s, 3H);  $m/z$   $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{15}\text{N}_6\text{O}$ , 271.1307; found, 271.1309.

**5-((4-Chlorobenzyl)amino)-7-(3-methyl-1H-1,2,4-triazol-5-yl)-1,6-naphthyridin-8-ol (10).** **10** was synthesized by an analogous method to **8** from **37** (50 mg, 0.15 mmol), 4-chlorobenzylamine (42 mg, 0.29 mmol), and DIPEA (57 mg, 0.44 mmol) to give **10** (30 mg, 0.074 mmol, 50%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  14.18 (bs, 1H), 11.12 (bs, 1H), 9.04–9.01 (m, 1H), 8.75–8.72 (m, 1H), 7.90–7.85 (m, 1H), 7.67–7.62 (m, 1H), 7.54–7.50 (m, 2H), 7.37–7.33 (m, 2H), 4.89 (s, 2H), 2.43 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  158.8, 154.9, 153.5, 149.3, 144.5, 141.2, 140.6, 132.4, 131.4, 130.1, 128.4, 122.7, 121.2, 116.1, 43.4, 14.0;  $m/z$   $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}_6\text{OCl}$ , 367.1074; found, 367.1088.

**7-(3-Methyl-1H-1,2,4-triazol-5-yl)-5-morpholino-1,6-naphthyridin-8-ol (11).** A mixture of **37** (50 mg, 0.16 mmol), DIPEA (90  $\mu\text{L}$ , 0.49 mmol), and morpholine (28  $\mu\text{L}$ , 0.32 mmol) in NMP (0.5 mL) was heated in microwave to 200 °C for 1 h. After cooling, the crude mixture was purified by prep. HPLC to give **11** (31 mg, 0.073 mmol, 46%) as the TFA salt.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  9.13 (dd,  $J = 1.6, 4.2$  Hz, 1H), 8.59 (dd,  $J = 1.6, 8.5$  Hz, 1H), 7.77–7.73 (m, 1H), 3.90–3.85 (m, 4H), 3.34–3.30 (m, 4H), 2.52 (s, 3H, under DMSO signal);  $m/z$  313.2  $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ .

**1-(8-Hydroxy-7-(3-methyl-1H-1,2,4-triazol-5-yl)-1,6-naphthyridin-5-yl)pyrrolidin-2-one (12).** To a solution of pyrrolidin-2-one (0.068 mL, 0.89 mmol) in 1,4-dioxane (7 mL) was added **38** (300 mg, 0.74 mmol), caesium carbonate (484 mg, 1.48 mmol), palladium acetate (3 mg, 0.015 mmol), and Xantphos (17 mg, 0.03 mmol), and the mixture was heated at 65 °C for 18 h. Water (50 mL)/HCl (2 M, two drops) was added, extracted with DCM (2  $\times$  50 mL), and the combined organics were dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , filtered, and solvent-evaporated. The crude residue (120 mg, 0.30 mmol) in DMF (0.3 mL) was added to a solution of sodium methoxide (1.5 mL, 0.74 mmol, 0.5 M in MeOH) and heated to 50 °C for 5 min, cooled to room temperature, and stirred for 15 min. Acetic acid (0.033 mL, 0.59 mmol) and water (3 mL) were added dropwise, and the resulting suspension was stirred for 2 h, poured into water (20 mL), and the pH adjusted to approximately 5 by addition of HCl (1 M, 0.1 mL). DCM (20 mL) was added, and the organic layer was dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , filtered, and concentrated to afford crude 8-hydroxy-5-(2-oxopyrrolidin-1-yl)-1,6-naphthyridine-7-carbonitrile (57 mg, 0.22 mmol, 25% over two steps). To this crude intermediate in a mixture of acetic acid (0.1 mL) and 1,4-dioxane (1 mL) was added acetic hydrazide (50 mg, 0.67 mmol), and the mixture was heated in microwave to 180 °C for 2 h. Further, acetic hydrazide (50 mg, 0.67 mmol) was added and heated in microwave to

180 °C for 2 h. The solvent was evaporated, and the crude material was purified by prep. HPLC to give **12** (5 mg, 0.016 mmol, 7%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  14.48 (bs, 1H), 12.25 (bs, 1H), 9.18–9.15 (m, 1H), 8.39–8.35 (m, 1H), 7.78–7.73 (m, 1H), 4.15–4.08 (m, 2H), 2.66–2.60 (m, 2H), 2.49 (s, 3H, under solvent peak), 2.32–2.23 (m, 2H);  $m/z$  311.1  $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ .

**2-(8-Hydroxy-7-(3-methyl-1H-1,2,4-triazol-5-yl)-1,6-naphthyridin-5-yl)-1,2-thiazinane 1,1-dioxide (13).** To a solution of **38** (300 mg, 0.74 mmol) in 1,4-dioxane (7 mL) were added 1,2-thiazinane 1,1-dioxide (120 mg, 0.89 mmol), caesium carbonate (484 mg, 1.48 mmol),  $\text{Pd}_2(\text{dba})_3$  (13 mg, 0.015 mmol), and Xantphos (17 mg, 0.03 mmol), and the resulting mixture was stirred at 65 °C for 1 h. The mixture was poured into water (50 mL)/HCl (2 M, two drops) and extracted with DCM (2  $\times$  50 mL). The combined organics were dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , filtered, and solvent-evaporated. The crude mixture in DMF (0.6 mL) was added to a solution of sodium methoxide (2.7 mL, 1.36 mmol, 0.5 M in MeOH), and the resulting solution heated to 50 °C for 5 min, cooled to room temperature, and stirred 15 min. An acetic acid (0.06 mL, 1.09 mmol)/water (5.5 mL) mixture was added dropwise, and the resulting suspension was stirred for 2 h, poured into water (20 mL), and the pH was adjusted to approximately 5 by addition of HCl (1 M, 0.1 mL). DCM (20 mL) was added, and the organic layer was dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , filtered, and concentrated to afford crude 5-(1,1-dioxido-1,2-thiazinan-2-yl)-8-hydroxy-1,6-naphthyridine-7-carbonitrile (190 mg, 0.53 mmol, 71% over two steps). To this crude material in a mixture of acetic acid (0.1 mL) and 1,4-dioxane (1 mL) was added acetic hydrazide (139 mg, 1.83 mmol), and the mixture was stirred in microwave at 180 °C for 2 h, concentrated to dryness, and purified by mass-directed prep. HPLC to give **13** (35 mg, 0.1 mmol, 16%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  14.45 (bs, 1H), 12.41 (bs, 1H), 9.09–9.06 (m, 1H), 8.51–8.45 (m, 1H), 7.78–7.70 (m, 1H), 4.02–3.97 (m, 1H), 3.89–3.81 (m, 1H), 3.70–3.61 (m, 2H), 3.38–3.31 (m, 2H), 3.09–3.06 (m, 1H), 2.23 (s, 3H), 1.57–1.48 (m, 1H);  $m/z$   $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{17}\text{N}_6\text{O}_3\text{S}$ , 361.1083; found, 361.1079.

**7-(3-Methyl-1H-1,2,4-triazol-5-yl)-5-phenyl-1,6-naphthyridin-8-ol (14).** **36** (75 mg, 0.39 mmol), 4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-2-phenyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolane (122 mg, 0.60 mmol), potassium phosphate tribasic (191 mg, 0.90 mmol), and  $\text{Pd}(\text{dppf})\text{Cl}_2 \cdot \text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (12 mg, 0.015 mmol) in DMF (1.5 mL)/water (0.5 mL) were heated in microwave at 130 °C for 1 h. EtOAc (10 mL) and 20% aqueous NaCl (10 mL) were added, and the organic layer was separated, washed with brine, and solvent-evaporated to give crude intermediate. To this crude material in 1,4-dioxane (2 mL)/acetic acid (0.2 mL) was added acetylhydrazide (667 mg, 0.90 mmol) and heated in microwave to 200 °C for 45 min. The resulting mixture was filtered to remove solid, solvent-evaporated, and purified by mass-directed prep. HPLC to give **14** (3 mg, 0.009 mmol, 3%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  13.50 (bs, 1H), 9.15 (s, 1H), 8.37 (d,  $J = 8.3$  Hz, 1H), 7.76–7.66 (m, 3H), 7.63–7.52 (m, 4H), 2.48 (s, 3H, under DMSO signal);  $m/z$  304.1  $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ .

**7-(3-Methyl-1H-1,2,4-triazol-5-yl)-5-(2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)-1,6-naphthyridin-8-ol (15).** A mixture of **39** (250 mg, 0.74 mmol), 2-(trifluoromethyl)benzeneboronic acid (279 mg, 1.47 mmol), sodium carbonate (234 mg, 2.21 mmol), and tetrakis-(triphenylphosphine)palladium(0) (42 mg, 0.037 mmol) in water (3 mL)/1,4-dioxane (9 mL), was heated in microwave at 120 °C for 1 h. The mixture was partitioned between DCM (15 mL) and sat.  $\text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$  (30 mL), the phases were separated, and the aqueous layer was further extracted with DCM (3  $\times$  10 mL). The combined organics were dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , filtered, and concentrated, and the resulting solid was triturated with ether to give a mixture of 8-(benzyloxy)-5-(2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)-1,6-naphthyridine-7-carbonitrile and 8-hydroxy-5-(2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)-1,6-naphthyridine-7-carbonitrile (0.150 g). The crude mixture was taken up in acetic acid (0.1 mL)/1,4-dioxane (1 mL), acetic hydrazide (46 mg, 0.62 mmol) was added, and heated in microwave at 180 °C for 8 h. Further, acetic hydrazide (0.031 g, 0.416 mmol) was added and heating was continued for 17 h. The solvent was evaporated, and the crude mixture was dissolved in 5% MeOH/DCM (20 mL), washed with water (1  $\times$  50 mL), and the aqueous phase was extracted with further DCM (1  $\times$  30 mL). The combined organics were washed with water, dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ ,

filtered, and concentrated to give a brown oil, which was precipitated with a mixture of ether and acetone. The resulting solid was further triturated with ether to give a brown pale solid, which was dried under vacuum to give **15** (60 mg, 0.16 mmol, 22% over two steps).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  9.23–9.20 (m, 1H), 7.96–7.89 (m, 2H), 7.77–7.69 (m, 2H), 7.57–7.47 (m, 2H), 2.59 (s, 3H);  $m/z$  372.1  $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ .

**5-(2-Methoxyphenyl)-7-(3-methyl-1H-1,2,4-triazol-5-yl)-1,6-naphthyridin-8-ol (16).** A mixture of **39** (700 mg, 2.06 mmol), 2-methoxyphenylboronic acid (626 mg, 4.12 mmol), sodium carbonate (655 mg, 6.18 mmol), and tetrakis(triphenylphosphine)palladium(0) (120 mg, 0.103 mmol) in 1,4-dioxane (9 mL)/water (3 mL) was heated at 120 °C in microwave for 1.5 h, poured into water (15 mL)/brine (5 mL), and extracted with EtOAc (20 mL). The organics were dried over  $\text{MgSO}_4$ , filtered, and concentrated. The crude was dissolved in acetic acid (0.5 mL)/1,4-dioxane (5 mL), acetic hydrazide (0.23 g, 3.10 mmol) was added, and stirred at 180 °C in microwave for 2 h. Further, acetic hydrazide (0.23 g, 3.10 mmol) was added and the mixture was heated in microwave at 180 °C for 6 h. The resulting solution was concentrated and taken up in 9:1 DCM/MeOH (15 mL), washed with water (10 mL), brine (5 mL), dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , filtered, and concentrated. The resulting solid was triturated with ether (10 mL) and acetonitrile (10 mL) to give **16** (165 mg, 0.50 mmol, 24%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{MeOD}$ ):  $\delta$  9.09–9.05 (m, 1H), 8.09–8.05 (m, 1H), 7.68–7.63 (m, 1H), 7.58–7.53 (m, 1H), 7.50–7.46 (m, 1H), 7.22–7.13 (m, 2H), 3.71 (s, 3H), 3.32 (s, 3H);  $m/z$   $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}_5\text{O}_2$ , 334.1304; found, 334.1294.

**5-(2-Methoxyphenyl)-7-(5-methyl-1,3,4-oxadiazol-2-yl)-1,6-naphthyridin-8-ol (19).** **41** (80 mg, 0.25 mmol), 2-methoxyphenylboronic acid (76 mg, 0.50 mmol), sodium carbonate (79 mg, 0.747 mmol), and tetrakis(triphenylphosphine)palladium(0) (14 mg, 0.012 mmol) in a mixture of water (1 mL)/1,4-dioxane (3 mL) were stirred at 120 °C overnight. The reaction mixture was concentrated to dryness, and the crude residue was purified by flash chromatography (0–70% EtOH/EtOAc (1:3)/cyclohexane) to give 2-(8-methoxy-5-(2-methoxyphenyl)-1,6-naphthyridin-7-yl)-5-methyl-1,3,4-oxadiazole (86 mg, 0.25 mmol).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ ):  $\delta$  9.16–9.14 (m, 1H), 7.95–7.92 (m, 1H), 7.69–7.65 (m, 1H), 7.51–7.46 (m, 1H), 7.32–7.29 (m, 1H), 7.18–7.15 (m, 1H), 7.08–7.04 (m, 1H), 4.19 (s, 3H), 3.58 (s, 3H), 2.53 (s, 3H). To a solution of 2-(8-methoxy-5-(2-methoxyphenyl)-1,6-naphthyridin-7-yl)-5-methyl-1,3,4-oxadiazole (68 mg, 0.195 mmol) in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  (2 mL) were added trimethylchlorosilane (37  $\mu\text{L}$ , 0.293 mmol) and sodium iodide (44 mg, 0.293 mmol) and heated to reflux overnight. The crude residue was poured into water (30 mL) and extracted with DCM (50 mL). The organic layer was dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , filtered, and concentrated. The crude residue was triturated with MeOH (5 mL), and the resulting solid was collected by filtration to give **19** (29 mg, 0.087 mmol, 44%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ ):  $\delta$  9.19 (dd,  $J$  = 1.5, 4.0 Hz, 1H), 7.99 (dd,  $J$  = 1.5, 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.77 (dd,  $J$  = 8.2, 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.58–7.53 (m, 1H), 7.40–7.37 (m, 1H), 7.23 (d,  $J$  = 4.1 Hz, 1H), 7.15 (dd,  $J$  = 7.3, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 3.66 (s, 3H), 2.62 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ ):  $\delta$  164.1, 163.6, 157.2, 153.9, 150.1, 149.6, 141.9, 136.7, 131.7, 131.1, 126.9, 125.1, 124.5, 122.9, 121.2, 111.9, 55.8, 11.1;  $m/z$   $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{15}\text{N}_4\text{O}_3$ , 335.1144; found, 335.1155.

**(R)-N-(1-(4-Fluorophenyl)ethyl)-1-methyl-4-oxo-1,4-dihydro-1,5-naphthyridine-3-carboxamide (22).** To **42** (100 mg, 0.47 mmol) in DMF (2 mL) were added 4-fluoro- $\alpha$ -(R)-methylbenzylamine (71 mg, 0.51 mmol) and DIPEA (180 mg, 1.40 mmol). Propylphosphonic anhydride (444 mg, 1.4 mmol, 50% solution in EtOAc) was added dropwise, and the mixture was stirred for 2 h, poured into sat  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  (10 mL), and extracted into EtOAc ( $3 \times 10$  mL). The combined organics were washed with brine, dried, evaporated, and the crude material was purified by column chromatography (0–20% MeOH/DCM) to give **22** (13 mg, 0.38 mmol, 8%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ ):  $\delta$  10.49 (d,  $J$  = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 8.88–8.85 (m, 2H), 8.35–8.31 (m, 1H), 7.89–8.85 (m, 1H), 7.46–7.40 (m, 2H), 7.21–7.15 (m, 2H), 5.24–5.15 (m, 1H), 4.02 (s, 3H), 1.51 (d,  $J$  = 6.9 Hz, 3H);  $m/z$  326.1  $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ .

**N-(4-Methoxybenzyl)-1-methyl-4-oxo-1,4-dihydropyrido-[3,2-*c*]pyridazine-3-carboxamide (23).** To crude **43** (8 g, 33.4 mmol) in MeCN (130 mL) at 0 °C were added triethylamine (6 g, 60

mmol) and 4-acetamidobenzenesulfonyl azide (8.8 g, 36.8 mmol), allowed to warm to RT, and stirred for 18 h. The crude mixture was filtered to remove solid, and the filtrate was concentrated and purified by column chromatography (pet. ether/EtOAc, 3:1) to give *tert*-butyl 2-diazo-3-(3-fluoropyridin-2-yl)-3-oxopropanoate (8.1 g, 30.5 mmol, 91%). This material was dissolved in THF (80 mL), tributylphosphine (6.854 g, 33.6 mmol) was added, stirred for 15 min, and quenched by addition of water (5.5 mL). The solvent was evaporated, and the residue was purified by flash chromatography (pet. ether/EtOAc 3:1) to give *tert*-butyl 3-(3-fluoropyridin-2-yl)-2-hydrazono-3-oxopropanoate (9 g, quant.). This material was dissolved in MeCN (180 mL), and DBU (10.7 g, 10.7 mmol) and methyl iodide (5 g, 35.3 mmol) were added and stirred at RT for 18 h. The mixture was quenched with sat. aq  $\text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$ , extracted into DCM, and the organics were concentrated and purified by flash chromatography (1% MeOH in DCM) to give crude **44**, which was used without further purification (2.8 g, 10.7 mmol, 32%);  $m/z$  206.0  $[\text{M} + \text{H} - t\text{Bu}]^+$ . To a solution of **44** (2.8 g, 10.7 mmol) in DCM (100 mL) was added TFA (15.7 g, 139 mmol) and stirred for 18 h. Ether was added and evaporated and further ether added. The resulting solid was collected and dried to give crude 1-methyl-4-oxo-1,4-dihydropyrido[3,2-*c*]pyridazine-3-carboxylic acid (1.6 g, 73%), which was used without purification.

A mixture of the crude material (300 mg, 1.46 mmol), HOBt (237 mg, 1.75 mmol), EDCI (420 mg, 2.19 mmol), and DIPEA (378 mg, 2.92 mmol) in DCM (12 mL) was stirred for 30 min, a solution of (4-methoxyphenyl)methanamine (241 mg, 1.75 mmol) in DCM (12 mL) added, and stirred for 16 h. The mixture was concentrated and purified by prep. HPLC to give **23** (419 mg, 1.29 mmol, 88%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ ):  $\delta$  9.87–9.84 (m, 1H), 8.93 (d,  $J$  = 4.2 Hz, 1H), 8.43 (d,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.96–7.94 (m, 1H), 7.31 (d,  $J$  = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 6.91 (d,  $J$  = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 4.50 (d,  $J$  = 5.8 Hz, 2H), 4.24 (s, 3H), 3.75 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ ):  $\delta$  169.3, 162.0, 158.8, 150.1, 141.3, 140.3, 139.0, 131.4, 129.2, 128.9, 127.0, 114.3, 55.5, 44.9, 42.3;  $m/z$   $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{17}\text{N}_4\text{O}_3$ , 325.1295; found, 325.1305.

**(R)-N-(Fluoro(4-methoxyphenyl)methyl)-5-hydroxy-2-(2-methoxyphenyl)-1-methyl-6-oxo-1,6-dihydropyrimidine-4-carboxamide (25).** To a suspension of **46** (240 mg, 0.79 mmol) in toluene (5 mL), (R)-4-fluoro- $\alpha$ -methylbenzylamine (549 mg, 3.94 mmol) was added. The resulting solution was heated to reflux overnight. The solvent was evaporated, and the residue was purified by prep. HPLC to give **25** (145 mg, 46% yield).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ ):  $\delta$  12.55–12.48 (m, 1H), 9.07–9.02 (m, 1H), 7.56–7.50 (m, 1H), 7.47–7.40 (m, 3H), 7.20–7.09 (m, 4H), 5.17 (dd,  $J$  = 8.0, 15.3 Hz, 1H), 3.81 (d,  $J$  = 7.3 Hz, 3H), 3.17 (d,  $J$  = 3.0 Hz, 3H), 1.50 (dd,  $J$  = 2.7, 6.9 Hz, 3H);  $m/z$  398.2  $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ .

**8-Hydroxy-5-(2-methoxyphenyl)-N-methyl-1,6-naphthyridine-7-carboxamide (26).** To a mixture of **51a** (72 mg, 0.25 mmol), (2-methoxyphenyl)boronic acid (77 mg, 0.51 mmol), and potassium phosphate tribasic (162 mg, 0.77 mmol) in 1,4-dioxane (2 mL) was added Pd(dppf) $\text{Cl}_2$ ·DCM (12 mg, 0.015 mmol) in water (0.5 mL) and heated in microwave at 140 °C for 1 h. After cooling, EtOAc (9 mL) and 20% aqueous NaCl (10 mL) were added and the organics were separated, dried over  $\text{MgSO}_4$ , evaporated, and the crude material was purified by column chromatography (0–8% MeOH/DCM) to give **26** (25 mg, 0.077 mmol, 30%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ ):  $\delta$  9.17–9.15 (m, 1H), 9.02–8.98 (m, 1H), 7.95–7.92 (m, 1H), 7.75–7.72 (m, 1H), 7.58–7.54 (m, 1H), 7.44–7.42 (m, 1H), 7.25–7.22 (m, 1H), 7.18–7.15 (m, 1H), 3.68 (s, 3H), 2.91 (d,  $J$  = 4.9 Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ ):  $\delta$  170.3, 157.2, 154.1, 148.6, 142.5, 136.4, 132.0, 131.0, 127.1, 125.9, 125.1, 121.2, 111.8, 55.8, 26.3;  $m/z$   $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}_3\text{O}_3$ , 310.1192; found, 310.1196.

**8-Hydroxy-N-(4-methoxybenzyl)-1,6-naphthyridine-7-carboxamide (27).** A mixture of **47** (100 mg, 0.50 mmol) and 4-methoxybenzylamine (134 mg, 0.98 mmol) in EtOH (20 mL) was heated to reflux overnight. To the hot mixture was added water (30 mL) and acetic acid (2 mL), cooled to RT, solvent-evaporated, and the crude material was purified by mass-directed prep. HPLC to give **27** (84 mg, 0.27 mmol, 54%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ ):  $\delta$  13.69 (bs, 1H), 9.83 (bs, 1H), 9.19–9.14 (m, 1H), 8.93–8.85 (m, 1H), 8.60 (d,  $J$  = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.83–7.79 (m, 1H), 7.35–7.32 (m, 2H), 6.92–6.89 (m, 2H), 4.49 (d,  $J$



= 6.4 Hz, 2H), 3.75 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  169.8, 158.8, 154.9, 154.4, 142.5, 136.5, 131.3, 129.5, 127.0, 126.1, 125.4, 114.2, 55.5, 42.1;  $m/z$   $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}_3\text{O}_3$ , 310.1192; found, 310.1192.

**N-(1-(4-Fluorophenyl)ethyl)-8-hydroxy-1,6-naphthyridine-7-carboxamide (28).** A mixture of **47** (300 mg, 1.4 mmol) and 4-fluoro- $\alpha$ -methylbenzylamine (383 mg, 2.7 mmol) in EtOH (12 mL) was heated in microwave at 120 °C for 2 h. After cooling to 50 °C, water (10 mL) and acetic acid (1 mL) were added and the mixture was cooled to RT. Further, water (10 mL) and acetic acid (1 mL) were added, the mixture was stirred for 40 min, and the resulting solid was collected, washed with water, and dried to give **28** (280 mg, 0.89 mmol, 65%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  13.69 (s, 1H), 9.66–9.60 (m, 1H), 9.18–9.15 (m, 1H), 8.93 (s, 1H), 8.64–8.61 (m, 1H), 7.85–7.81 (m, 1H), 7.57–7.51 (m, 2H), 7.20–7.15 (m, 2H), 5.31–5.24 (m, 1H), 1.59 (d,  $J$  = 7.0 Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  169.2, 161.6 (d,  $J$  = 242 Hz), 154.9, 154.6, 142.4, 140.5, 136.5, 128.9, (d,  $J$  = 8.1 Hz), 127.0, 125.9, 125.4, 115.5 (d,  $J$  = 21.3 Hz), 48.2, 22.1;  $m/z$   $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{15}\text{N}_3\text{O}_2\text{F}$ , 312.1148; found, 312.1139.

**N-(Cyclopropylmethyl)-8-hydroxy-1,6-naphthyridine-7-carboxamide (29).** **29** was synthesized by an analogous method to **28** from **47** (100 mg, 0.50 mmol) and aminomethylcyclopropane (70 mg, 0.98 mmol) to give **29** (23 mg, 0.09 mmol, 19%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  13.92 (bs, 1H), 9.38 (bs, 1H), 9.18–9.16 (m, 1H), 8.92 (s, 1H), 8.64–8.60 (m, 1H), 7.86–7.81 (m, 1H), 3.26 (t,  $J$  = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 1.19–1.11 (m, 1H), 0.49–0.45 (m, 2H), 0.34–0.29 (m, 2H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  169.8, 154.8, 154.5, 142.5, 142.3, 136.4, 126.9, 126.2, 125.2, 43.6, 11.3, 3.8;  $m/z$  244.1  $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ .

**N-(4-Fluorobenzyl)-5-(1,1-dioxido-1,2-thiazinan-2-yl)-8-hydroxy-1,6-naphthyridine-7-carboxamide (30).** To a solution of **49** (365 mg, 0.835 mmol) in 1,4-dioxane (8.4 mL), 1,2-thiazinan-1,1-dioxide (135 mg, 1.00 mmol), caesium carbonate (544 mg, 1.67 mmol),  $\text{Pd}_2(\text{dba})_3$  (15 mg, 0.017 mmol), and Xantphos (19 mg, 0.033 mmol) were added, and the resulting mixture was stirred at 65 °C for 2.5 h. The reaction was partitioned between DCM (25 mL) and sat.  $\text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$  (50 mL), the phases were separated, and the aqueous phase was extracted with further DCM (1  $\times$  25 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , filtered, and concentrated to give a crude material, which was dissolved in dichloromethane and purified by flash chromatography (0–30% ethyl acetate/ethanol (3:1)/cyclohexane) to give methyl 5-(1,1-dioxido-1,2-thiazinan-2-yl)-8-(tosyloxy)-1,6-naphthyridine-7-carboxylate, which was used without further purification. To a suspension of the crude material (0.070 g, 0.142 mmol) in isopropanol (1.4 mL), a solution of lithium hydroxide (20 mg, 0.47 mmol) in water was added, and the resulting suspension was heated at 60 °C overnight and then stirred at room temperature overnight. 2 M HCl was added to adjust the pH to approximately 2, and the mixture was concentrated to give crude 5-(1,1-dioxido-1,2-thiazinan-2-yl)-8-hydroxy-1,6-naphthyridine-7-carboxylic acid. To a suspension of the crude material (108 mg, 0.33 mmol) in DMF (3.3 mL), 4-fluorobenzylamine (0.045 mL, 0.40 mmol), HOBt (61 mg, 0.40 mmol), and DIPEA (0.088 mL, 0.50 mmol) were added, and the resulting solution was purged with nitrogen and cooled to 0 °C. EDCI (96 mg, 0.50 mmol) was added, and the solution was stirred at room temperature for 8 h and then at 50 °C overnight. Further, HOBt (61 mg, 0.40 mmol), EDCI (96 mg, 0.50 mmol), and 4-fluorobenzylamine (0.046 mL, 0.40 mmol) were added, and the resulting solution was stirred at 50 °C overnight. After cooling, the reaction was partitioned between EtOAc (20 mL) and sat.  $\text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$  (50 mL), the layers were separated, and the aqueous phase was extracted with further EtOAc (1  $\times$  20 mL). The combined organics were dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , filtered, and concentrated to give a crude oil, which was purified by preparative HPLC to give **30** (11 mg, 0.025 mmol, 7% over three steps).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  9.15 (bs, 1H), 8.61–8.59 (m, 1H), 7.84–7.80 (m, 1H), 7.49–7.43 (m, 2H), 7.37–7.25 (m, 1H), 7.18–7.12 (m, 2H), 7.11–7.03 (m, 1H), 4.66 (d,  $J$  = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 3.89–3.86 (m, 2H), 3.49–3.45 (m, 2H), 2.36–2.28 (m, 3H), 2.02–1.99 (m, 1H);  $m/z$  431.0  $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ ;  $m/z$   $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{20}\text{N}_4\text{O}_4\text{SF}$ , 431.1189; found, 431.1192.

**N-(4-Chlorobenzyl)-8-hydroxy-5-((tetrahydro-2H-pyran-4-yl)amino)-1,6-naphthyridine-7-carboxamide (31).** To a solution

of DIPEA (747  $\mu\text{L}$ , 0.428 mmol) in NMP (1.43 mL) were added 4-aminotetrahydropyran (103  $\mu\text{L}$ , 0.998 mmol) and **51c** (56 mg, 0.143 mmol), and the resulting solution was heated in microwave at 180 °C for 5 h. The reaction was partitioned between EtOAc (15 mL) and a saturated solution of  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  (60 mL). The layers were separated, and the aqueous phase was extracted with EtOAc (3  $\times$  30 mL). The organic phases were combined, dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , filtered, concentrated, and the crude material was purified by preparative HPLC to afford **31** (10 mg, 17%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  12.43 (s, 1H), 9.07–9.02 (m, 2H), 8.78 (dd,  $J$  = 1.5, 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.69 (dd,  $J$  = 4.3, 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.43–7.35 (m, 4H), 7.00 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 4.58 (d,  $J$  = 6.3 Hz, 2H), 4.47–4.39 (m, 1H), 3.92–3.88 (m, 2H), 3.55–3.47 (m, 2H), 1.97–1.90 (m, 2H), 1.62–1.50 (m, 2H);  $m/z$  413.17  $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ .

**N-(4-Chlorobenzyl)-8-hydroxy-5-morpholino-1,6-naphthyridine-7-carboxamide (32).** A mixture of **51c** (30 mg, 0.07 mmol) and morpholine (312 mg, 0.36 mmol) in NMP (0.5 mL) was heated in microwave at 150 °C for 1 h. The crude solution was purified by mass-directed prep. HPLC to give **32** (10 mg, 0.024 mmol, 33%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  13.14 (bs, 1H), 9.45–9.32 (m, 1H), 9.16–9.07 (m, 1H), 8.62–8.53 (m, 1H), 7.81–7.70 (m, 1H), 7.45–7.38 (m, 4H), 4.62–5.53 (m, 2H), 3.92–3.81 (m, 4H), 3.30–3.23 (m, 4H, under water signal);  $m/z$  399.1, 401.1  $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ .

**N-(Cyclopropylmethyl)-8-hydroxy-5-(2-methoxyphenyl)-1,6-naphthyridine-7-carboxamide (33).** **33** was synthesized by an analogous method to **26** from **51b** (40 mg, 0.14 mmol) and 2-methoxyphenylboronic acid (43 mg, 0.28 mmol) to give **33** (20 mg, 0.05 mmol, 38%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  13.51 (s, 1H), 9.17–9.15 (m, 1H), 8.28–8.23 (m, 1H), 8.00–7.96 (m, 1H), 7.58–7.44 (m, 3H), 7.21–7.17 (m, 1H), 7.12–7.09 (m, 1H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 3.40–3.35 (m, 2H), 1.16–1.08 (m, 1H), 0.61–0.56 (m, 2H), 0.36–0.311 (m, 2H);  $m/z$  350.2  $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ .

**8-Hydroxy-N-(trans-4-methoxycyclohexyl)-5-(2-methoxyphenyl)-1,6-naphthyridine-7-carboxamide (34).** To a solution of **50** (750 mg, 2.53 mmol) in DMF (17 mL) were added *trans*-4-methoxycyclohexylamine (491 mg, 3.80 mmol), DIPEA (1.33 mL, 7.59 mmol), and propylphosphonic anhydride solution (T3P) (4.83 g, 7.59 mmol) and stirred at RT for 2 h and then at 50 °C for 18 h. After cooling, the reaction mixture was partitioned between water (70 mL) and EtOAc (30 mL), the layers were separated, and the pH of the aqueous layer was adjusted to approximately 5 with 1 M NaOH. The aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc (2  $\times$  30 mL), and the combined organics were washed with sat.  $\text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$  (1  $\times$  40 mL), dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , filtered, and concentrated. The resulting solid was triturated with ether (3  $\times$  5 mL) and dried to give **34** (580 mg, 1.42 mmol, 56% yield).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  13.88 (s, 1H), 9.14–9.12 (m, 1H), 8.67–8.64 (m, 1H), 7.90–7.88 (m, 1H), 7.72–7.70 (m, 1H), 7.57–7.52 (m, 1H), 7.32–7.40 (m, 1H), 7.22–7.13 (m, 2H), 3.92–3.84 (m, 1H), 3.64 (s, 3H), 3.23 (s, 3H), 3.11–3.05 (m, 1H), 2.05–1.99 (m, 2H), 1.85–1.83 (m, 2H), 1.63–1.54 (m, 2H), 1.27–1.17 (m, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  169.2, 157.2, 154.3, 154.1, 148.6, 142.4, 136.4, 131.9, 131.1, 127.0, 125.9, 121.2, 111.8, 78.1, 55.8, 55.6, 48.1, 30.8, 29.8;  $m/z$   $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{26}\text{N}_3\text{O}_4$ , 408.1923; found, 408.1913.

**5-Bromo-8-hydroxy-1,6-naphthyridine-7-carbonitrile (36).** To a solution of **35** (1.10 g, 6.43 mmol) in DCM (64 mL), NBS (1.37 g, 7.71 mmol) was added and stirred for 2 h. Water (100 mL) was added, the phases were separated, and the aqueous layer was extracted with 5% MeOH/DCM (3  $\times$  40 mL). The combined organics were washed with water (4  $\times$  100 mL), dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , filtered, and concentrated to give **36** as a yellow solid (1.35 g, 5.42 mmol, 84%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ ): 9.30–9.28 (m, 1H), 8.64–8.61 (m, 1H), 8.06–8.02 (m, 1H);  $\delta$   $m/z$  250.0, 252.0  $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ .

**5-Bromo-7-(5-methyl-4H-1,2,4-triazol-3-yl)-1,6-naphthyridin-8-ol (37).** To **36** (750 mg, 2.85 mmol) in 1,4-dioxane (6 mL)/acetic acid (2 mL) was added acetohydrazide (666 mg, 9.0 mmol) and heated in microwave at 200 °C for 0.5 h. Upon cooling, the resulting solid was collected, washed with 1,4-dioxane, and dissolved in water. 1 M HCl was added to adjust the pH to approximately 4–5, and the resulting solid was collected, washed with water, and dried in vacuo to give **37** (460 mg, 1.35 mmol, 45%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  14.14 (bs,

1H), 8.83–8.82 (m, 1H), 8.27–8.24 (m, 1H), 7.63–7.60 (m, 1H), 2.31 (s, 3H);  $m/z$  305.9, 307.9  $[M + H]^+$ .

**5-Bromo-7-cyano-1,6-naphthyridin-8-yl 4-methylbenzenesulfonate (38).** To a suspension of **36** (500 mg, 2.0 mmol) in DCM (15 mL) were added triethylamine (418  $\mu$ L, 3.00 mmol) and tosyl chloride (457 mg, 2.4 mmol) and heated in a sealed tube at 40 °C for 3 h. After cooling, sat.  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  (25 mL) was added, the layers were separated, and the aqueous layer was extracted with DCM (30 mL). The combined organics were dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , filtered, concentrated, and purified by flash chromatography (0–80% EtOAc/cyclohexane) to give **38** (867 g, 1.66 mmol, 83%);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ ):  $\delta$  9.01–9.00 (m, 1H), 8.62–8.60 (m, 1H), 7.92–7.89 (m, 1H), 7.77 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.38 (d,  $J$  = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 2.36 (s, 3H);  $m/z$  406.0, 408.0  $[M + H]^+$ .

**8-(Benzoyloxy)-5-bromo-1,6-naphthyridine-7-carbonitrile (39).** To a solution of **38** (2.47 g, 9.9 mmol) in THF (60 mL) at 0 °C was added triphenylphosphine (3.89 g, 14.8 mmol) and benzyl alcohol (1.12 mL, 10.9 mmol), stirred for 15 min, and diisopropyl azodicarboxylate (2.91 mL, 14.82 mmol) was added dropwise. The resulting solution was stirred at 0 °C for 2 h, allowed to warm to room temperature, and stirred overnight. The solution was poured into water (150 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (150 mL). The organic layer was dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , filtered, concentrated, and purified using column chromatography (0–25% EtOAc/cyclohexane) to give a white solid, which was triturated with a mixture of  $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$  and cyclohexane (1:1, 20 mL) to give **39** (0.5 g, 1.47 mmol, 15%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ ):  $\delta$  9.40–9.37 (m, 1H), 8.72–8.68 (m, 1H), 8.08–8.04 (m, 1H), 7.53–7.48 (m, 2H), 7.43–7.35 (m, 3H), 5.86 (s, 2H);  $m/z$  338.1, 340.1  $[M + H]^+$ .

**2-(5-Bromo-8-methoxy-1,6-naphthyridin-7-yl)-5-methyl-1,3,4-oxadiazole (41).** To a solution of EDCI (335 mg, 1.75 mmol) in DCM (15 mL) at 0 °C were added DIPEA (0.509 mL, 2.91 mmol) and HOBt (268 mg, 1.75 mmol) and stirred at 0 °C for 10 min. Acethydrazide (130 mg, 1.75 mmol) and **40** (330 mg, 1.17 mmol) were added, and the solution was stirred for 18 h. Water (25 mL) and DCM (25 mL) were added, and the aqueous layer was extracted with DCM (2  $\times$  15 mL). The combined organics were dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , filtered, and concentrated to give crude *N'*-acetyl-5-bromo-8-methoxy-1,6-naphthyridine-7-carbohydrazide (170 mg, 43%) which was used without purification. Triphenylphosphine (247 mg, 0.944 mmol), carbon tetrachloride (0.182 mL, 1.89 mmol), and triethylamine (0.132 mL, 0.944 mmol) were added to a mixture of the crude material (160 mg, 0.472 mmol) in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  (4 mL) and stirred at 60 °C for 2 h. After cooling, the reaction mixture was concentrated and purified by flash chromatography (0–70% EtOH/EtOAc 1:3/cyclohexane) to give **41** (0.08 g, 53% yield).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ ):  $\delta$  9.34–9.33 (m, 1H), 8.76–8.73 (m, 1H), 8.00–7.97 (m, 1H), 4.25 (s, 3H), 2.66 (s, 3H);  $m/z$  321.0, 323.0  $[M + H]^+$ .

**1-Methyl-4-oxo-1,4-dihydro-1,5-naphthyridine-3-carboxylic Acid (42).** To 3-chloropyridine-2-carboxylic acid (1 g, 6.3 mmol) in DCM (40 mL) was added oxalyl chloride (1.6 g, 12.7 mmol) and DMF (one drop) and stirred for 2 h. The solvent was evaporated, and THF (20 mL) was added. In parallel, to 3-ethoxy-3-oxo-propanoic acid (1.31 g, 10.2 mmol) in THF (20 mL) at –78 °C was added BuLi (4.3 mL, 2.5 M in hexanes, 10.8 mmol) dropwise over 10 min. To this was added the acid chloride solution dropwise, and the mixture was stirred at –78 °C for 30 min, warmed to –30 °C, and stirred again for 30 min, and then quenched by pouring into a mix of ice/1 M HCl. The aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc (3  $\times$  20 mL), and the combined organics were washed with sat  $\text{NaHCO}_3$ , 1 M HCl, and brine, dried, and evaporated. The crude material (480 mg, 1.9 mmol) and DMF-DMA (2.49 g, 2.1 mmol) in DMF (2 mL) were heated in microwave at 100 °C for 1 h and solvent-evaporated. Water (5 mL) was added and washed with EtOAc (2  $\times$  5 mL). The combined organics were washed with brine, dried, and solvent-evaporated. Ether (4 mL)/EtOH (1 mL) and methylamine (33% in EtOH, 60 mg, 1.9 mmol) were added and stirred for 1 h, and the resulting solid was collected, taken up in DMF (4 mL), potassium carbonate (424 mg, 3.0 mmol) was added, and the mixture was stirred in a sealed tube at 100 °C overnight. The solvent was evaporated, 1 M NaOH (1 mL)/MeOH (1 mL) was added, and the mixture was stirred for 2 h. The resulting solid was collected, suspended

in water (5 mL), and acidified with acetic acid. The resulting solid was collected, washed with water, and dried under vacuum to give **42** (151 mg, 0.70 mmol, 69% yield).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ ):  $\delta$  15.32 (bs, 1H), 9.11 (bs, 1H), 8.98–8.96 (m, 1H), 8.48–8.44 (m, 1H), 8.00–7.97 (m, 1H), 4.11 (s, 3H);  $m/z$  205.1  $[M + H]^+$ .

**tert-Butyl 3-(3-Fluoropyridin-2-yl)-3-oxopropanoate (43).** To LDA (33 mL, 65.8 mmol, 2 M in THF) at –78 °C was added *tert*-butyl acetate (9.5 g, 82.2 mmol), stirred for 45 min, and methyl 3-fluoropicolinate (5.1 g, 32.9 mmol) in THF (30 mL) was added dropwise. The reaction mixture was stirred for 2 h, quenched at –78 °C by addition of pet. ether and water, and warmed to RT. The layers were separated, and the aqueous phase was extracted with pet. ether. The combined organics were dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , filtered, and evaporated to give crude **43**, which was used in the synthesis of **23** without purification (8 g, quant.);  $m/z$  205.1  $[M + H]^+$ .

**Ethyl 5-(2-Ethoxy-2-oxoethyl)-3-(2-methoxyphenyl)-2-methyl-2,5-dihydro-1,2,4-oxadiazole-5-carboxylate (45).** To a mixture of 2-methoxybenzonitrile (500 mg, 3.76 mmol) and *N*-methylhydroxylamine hydrochloride (627 mg, 7.51 mmol) in water (3.8 mL)/EtOH (1.9 mL) was added sodium carbonate (438 mg, 4.13 mmol), and the mixture was stirred at 80 °C for 28 h. The solvent was evaporated, DCM was added, stirred for 18 h, and the mixture was filtered. The solid was discarded, and the filtrate was evaporated to give crude *N*-hydroxy-2-methoxy-*N*-methylbenzimidamide (742 mg, 4.12 mmol), which was used in the next step without purification. To this crude material in EtOH (10 mL) was added diethyl acetylenedicarboxylate (771 mg, 4.53 mmol), stirred for 1 h, and the solvent was evaporated. The crude material was purified by flash chromatography (0–80% EtOAc/cyclohexane) to give **45** (880 mg, 2.5 mmol, 61%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ ):  $\delta$  7.57–7.53 (m, 1H), 7.49–7.46 (m, 1H), 7.18–7.16 (m, 1H), 7.07–7.03 (m, 1H), 4.20–4.16 (m, 2H), 4.08 (q,  $J$  = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 3.27–3.23 (m, 1H), 2.97–2.93 (m, 1H), 2.91 (s, 3H), 1.24–1.16 (m, 6H);  $m/z$  351.2  $[M + H]^+$ .

**Ethyl 5-Hydroxy-2-(2-methoxyphenyl)-1-methyl-6-oxo-1,6-dihydropyrimidine-4-carboxylate (46).** A solution of **45** (880 mg, 2.51 mmol) in *p*-xylene (5.38 mL) was heated to reflux for 2 days. Hexane (5 mL) was added, the resulting mixture was sonicated, and the resulting suspension was stored at 0 °C for 3 days. The solid was collected, washed with cyclohexane, and dried to give **46** (540 mg, 1.78 mmol, 41%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ ):  $\delta$  10.45 (s, 1H), 7.56–7.51 (m, 1H), 7.37–7.34 (m, 1H), 7.19–7.17 (m, 1H), 7.11–7.07 (m, 1H), 4.28 (q,  $J$  = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.20 (s, 3H), 1.27 (t,  $J$  = 7.0 Hz, 3H);  $m/z$  305.1  $[M + H]^+$ .

**Methyl 5-Bromo-8-hydroxy-1,6-naphthyridine-7-carboxylate (48).** To **47** (800 mg, 3.9 mmol) in DCM (20 mL) was added NBS (837 mg, 4.7 mmol) and stirred for 2 h. The resulting solid was collected, washed with DCM, and dried under vacuum to give **46** (1.09 g, 3.65 mmol, 93% yield).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ ):  $\delta$  11.54 (bs, 1H), 9.27–9.25 (m, 1H), 8.60–8.57 (m, 1H), 8.01–7.99 (m, 1H), 3.95 (s, 3H);  $m/z$  283.0, 285.0  $[M + H]^+$ .

**Methyl 5-Bromo-8-(tosyloxy)-1,6-naphthyridine-7-carboxylate (49).** To a suspension of **48** (1.3 g, 4.59 mmol) in DCM (31 mL), triethylamine (0.96 mL, 6.89 mmol) and tosyl chloride (1.05 g, 5.51 mmol) were added, and the suspension was heated at 40 °C for 2 days. A saturated solution of  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  (50 mL) was added, and the layers were separated. The organic layer was dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , filtered, concentrated, and purified by flash chromatography (0–80% EtOAc/cyclohexane) to give **49** (0.98 g, 2.3 mmol, 49%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ ):  $\delta$  8.95–8.92 (m, 1H), 8.55–8.53 (m, 1H), 7.84–7.81 (m, 1H), 7.61 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.31 (d,  $J$  = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 3.67 (s, 3H), 2.32 (s, 3H);  $m/z$  437.0, 439.0  $[M + H]^+$ .

**8-Hydroxy-5-(2-methoxyphenyl)-1,6-naphthyridine-7-carboxylic Acid (50).** To a suspension of **49** (19.75 g, 45.2 mmol) in 1,4-dioxane (339 mL) were added (2-methoxyphenyl)boronic acid (13.73 g, 90 mmol), aqueous sodium carbonate (14.36 g, 136 mmol, 113 mL of water), and tetrakis(triphenylphosphine)palladium(0) (2.61 g, 2.26 mmol), purged with  $\text{N}_2$ , and stirred at 60 °C for 18 h. After cooling, the mixture was partitioned between DCM (200 mL) and water (1.2 L), and the organic phase was dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , filtered, and concentrated. The crude intermediate was purified by flash



chromatography (0–100% EtOAc/ethanol (5:1)/cyclohexane) to give methyl 5-(2-methoxyphenyl)-8-(tosyloxy)-1,6-naphthyridine-7-carboxylate (16 g, 34.5 mmol), which was used without further purification. To a solution of the crude material (16 g, 34.5 mmol) in DMF (34.4 mL) was added sodium methoxide in MeOH (172 mL, 86 mmol, 0.5 N), stirred at 50 °C for 5 min, cooled to RT, and stirred for a further 15 min. Acetic acid (3.94 mL, 68.9 mmol)/water (130 mL) was added, stirred for 30 min, and the resulting solid was collected and washed with 1:1 MeOH/H<sub>2</sub>O (2 × 50 mL). The crude solid was taken up in THF (193 mL)/MeOH (97 mL), a solution of lithium hydroxide monohydrate (2.43 g, 58.0 mmol) in water (50 mL) was added, and the resulting suspension was stirred at 60 °C overnight. After cooling, pH was adjusted to approximately 4–5 by addition of 2 M HCl, and the resulting solid was collected, washed with 1:1 MTBE/cyclohexane, and dried to give **50** (7.65 g, 26 mmol, 89%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 8.99–8.97 (m, 1H), 7.79–7.76 (m, 1H), 7.57–7.54 (m, 1H), 7.52–7.47 (m, 1H), 7.34–7.32 (m, 1H), 7.18–7.15 (m, 1H), 7.13–7.08 (m, 1H), 3.64 (s, 3H).

**5-Bromo-N-(4-chlorobenzyl)-8-hydroxy-1,6-naphthyridine-7-carboxamide (51a).** **51a** was synthesized by an analogous method to **51b** from **48** (120 mg, 0.40 mmol) and 4-chlorobenzylamine (57 mg, 9.40 mmol) to give **51a** (75 mg, 0.18 mmol, 45%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 13.70 (bs, 1H), 9.75 (bs, 1H), 9.24–9.21 (m, 1H), 8.59–8.57 (m, 1H), 7.97–7.94 (m, 1H), 7.42–7.41 (m, 4H), 4.56 (d, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 2H); *m/z* 391.8, 393.8 [M + H]<sup>+</sup>.

**5-Bromo-8-hydroxy-N-methyl-1,6-naphthyridine-7-carboxamide (51b).** To **48** (1.3 g, 4.6 mmol) in EtOH (25 mL) was added methylamine (33% in EtOH, 2.2 mL, 23 mmol) and stirred at 100 °C overnight. The hot mixture was poured into water (40 mL)/acetic acid (10 mL), allowed to cool to RT, stirred for 1 h, and the resulting solid was collected, washed with water, and dried under vacuum to give **51b** (1.18 g, 3.96 mmol, 86% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 13.98 (bs, 1H), 9.24–9.06 (m, 2H), 8.59–8.55 (m, 1H), 7.96–7.92 (m, 1H), 2.90 (d, *J* = 2.9 Hz, 3H); *m/z* 282.0, 284.0 [M + H]<sup>+</sup>.

**5-Bromo-N-(cyclopropylmethyl)-8-hydroxy-1,6-naphthyridine-7-carboxamide (51c).** **51c** was synthesized by an analogous method to **51b** from **48** (400 mg, 1.4 mmol) and cyclopropylmethanamine (150 mg, 2.1 mmol) to give **51c** (392 mg, 1.16 mmol, 82%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 14.00 (bs, 1H), 9.28–9.22 (m, 2H), 8.62–8.58 (m, 1H), 8.00–7.95 (m, 1H), 3.26–3.23 (m, 2H), 1.18–1.12 (m, 1H), 0.51–0.45 (m, 2H), 0.34–0.30 (m, 2H); *m/z* 322.0 [M + H]<sup>+</sup>.

**Intramacrophage L. donovani Assay.** This assay was conducted as previously described,<sup>8</sup> except for compound exposure time, which was 96 h instead of 72 h.

**Kinetic Aqueous Solubility Assessment and Intrinsic Clearance Experiments.** These assays were conducted as previously described.<sup>23</sup>

**Chrom Log D<sub>pH7.4</sub>.** This assay was conducted as previously described.<sup>11</sup>

**In vivo Mouse Efficacy Studies.** *In vivo* studies were carried out as previously described.<sup>12</sup>

**Ethical Statements.** *Mouse and Rat Pharmacokinetics.* All animal studies were ethically reviewed and carried out in accordance with Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986 and the GSK/Dundee University Policy on the Care, Welfare, and Treatment of Animals.

*In Vivo Efficacy.* All regulated procedures, at the University of Dundee, on living animals were carried out under the authority of a project license issued by the Home Office under the Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986, as amended in 2012 (and in compliance with EU Directive EU/2010/63). License applications will have been approved by the University's Ethical Review Committee (ERC) before submission to the Home Office. The ERC has a general remit to develop and oversee policy on all aspects of the use of animals on University premises and is a subcommittee of the University Court, its highest governing body.

## ■ ASSOCIATED CONTENT

### Supporting Information

The Supporting Information is available free of charge at <https://pubs.acs.org/doi/10.1021/acs.jmedchem.0c00705>.

Experimental details and HPLC traces for key target compounds (PDF)

Molecular formula strings (XLSX)

## ■ AUTHOR INFORMATION

### Corresponding Authors

**Michael G. Thomas** — Drug Discovery Unit, Wellcome Centre for Anti-Infectives Research, Division of Biological Chemistry and Drug Discovery, School of Life Sciences, University of Dundee, Dundee DD1 5EH, United Kingdom; [orcid.org/0000-0003-0377-0281](https://orcid.org/0000-0003-0377-0281); Email: [M.Z.Thomas@dundee.ac.uk](mailto:M.Z.Thomas@dundee.ac.uk)

**Timothy J. Miles** — Global Health R&D, GlaxoSmithKline, Tres Cantos 28760, Spain; [orcid.org/0000-0001-7407-7404](https://orcid.org/0000-0001-7407-7404); Email: [Tim.J.Miles@gsk.com](mailto:Tim.J.Miles@gsk.com)

**Ian H. Gilbert** — Drug Discovery Unit, Wellcome Centre for Anti-Infectives Research, Division of Biological Chemistry and Drug Discovery, School of Life Sciences, University of Dundee, Dundee DD1 5EH, United Kingdom; [orcid.org/0000-0002-5238-1314](https://orcid.org/0000-0002-5238-1314); Email: [i.h.gilbert@dundee.ac.uk](mailto:i.h.gilbert@dundee.ac.uk)

### Authors

**Manu De Rycker** — Drug Discovery Unit, Wellcome Centre for Anti-Infectives Research, Division of Biological Chemistry and Drug Discovery, School of Life Sciences, University of Dundee, Dundee DD1 5EH, United Kingdom; [orcid.org/0000-0002-3171-3519](https://orcid.org/0000-0002-3171-3519)

**Richard J. Wall** — Drug Discovery Unit, Wellcome Centre for Anti-Infectives Research, Division of Biological Chemistry and Drug Discovery, School of Life Sciences, University of Dundee, Dundee DD1 5EH, United Kingdom

**Daniel Spinks** — Drug Discovery Unit, Wellcome Centre for Anti-Infectives Research, Division of Biological Chemistry and Drug Discovery, School of Life Sciences, University of Dundee, Dundee DD1 5EH, United Kingdom

**Ola Epemolu** — Drug Discovery Unit, Wellcome Centre for Anti-Infectives Research, Division of Biological Chemistry and Drug Discovery, School of Life Sciences, University of Dundee, Dundee DD1 5EH, United Kingdom

**Sujatha Manthri** — Drug Discovery Unit, Wellcome Centre for Anti-Infectives Research, Division of Biological Chemistry and Drug Discovery, School of Life Sciences, University of Dundee, Dundee DD1 5EH, United Kingdom

**Suzanne Norval** — Drug Discovery Unit, Wellcome Centre for Anti-Infectives Research, Division of Biological Chemistry and Drug Discovery, School of Life Sciences, University of Dundee, Dundee DD1 5EH, United Kingdom

**Maria Osuna-Cabello** — Drug Discovery Unit, Wellcome Centre for Anti-Infectives Research, Division of Biological Chemistry and Drug Discovery, School of Life Sciences, University of Dundee, Dundee DD1 5EH, United Kingdom

**Stephen Patterson** — Drug Discovery Unit, Wellcome Centre for Anti-Infectives Research, Division of Biological Chemistry and Drug Discovery, School of Life Sciences, University of Dundee, Dundee DD1 5EH, United Kingdom

**Jennifer Riley** — Drug Discovery Unit, Wellcome Centre for Anti-Infectives Research, Division of Biological Chemistry and Drug Discovery, School of Life Sciences, University of Dundee, Dundee DD1 5EH, United Kingdom

**Frederick R. C. Simeons** — Drug Discovery Unit, Wellcome Centre for Anti-Infectives Research, Division of Biological Chemistry and Drug Discovery, School of Life Sciences, University of Dundee, Dundee DD1 5EH, United Kingdom

**Lasto Stojanovski** – Drug Discovery Unit, Wellcome Centre for Anti-Infectives Research, Division of Biological Chemistry and Drug Discovery, School of Life Sciences, University of Dundee, Dundee DD1 5EH, United Kingdom

**John Thomas** – Drug Discovery Unit, Wellcome Centre for Anti-Infectives Research, Division of Biological Chemistry and Drug Discovery, School of Life Sciences, University of Dundee, Dundee DD1 5EH, United Kingdom

**Stephen Thompson** – Drug Discovery Unit, Wellcome Centre for Anti-Infectives Research, Division of Biological Chemistry and Drug Discovery, School of Life Sciences, University of Dundee, Dundee DD1 5EH, United Kingdom

**Claire Naylor** – Drug Discovery Unit, Wellcome Centre for Anti-Infectives Research, Division of Biological Chemistry and Drug Discovery, School of Life Sciences, University of Dundee, Dundee DD1 5EH, United Kingdom

**Jose M. Fiandor** – Global Health R&D, GlaxoSmithKline, Tres Cantos 28760, Spain

**Paul G. Wyatt** – Drug Discovery Unit, Wellcome Centre for Anti-Infectives Research, Division of Biological Chemistry and Drug Discovery, School of Life Sciences, University of Dundee, Dundee DD1 5EH, United Kingdom; [orcid.org/0000-0002-0397-245X](https://orcid.org/0000-0002-0397-245X)

**Maria Marco** – Global Health R&D, GlaxoSmithKline, Tres Cantos 28760, Spain; [orcid.org/0000-0002-2442-0021](https://orcid.org/0000-0002-2442-0021)

**Susan Wyllie** – Drug Discovery Unit, Wellcome Centre for Anti-Infectives Research, Division of Biological Chemistry and Drug Discovery, School of Life Sciences, University of Dundee, Dundee DD1 5EH, United Kingdom; [orcid.org/0000-0001-8810-5605](https://orcid.org/0000-0001-8810-5605)

**Kevin D. Read** – Drug Discovery Unit, Wellcome Centre for Anti-Infectives Research, Division of Biological Chemistry and Drug Discovery, School of Life Sciences, University of Dundee, Dundee DD1 5EH, United Kingdom; [orcid.org/0000-0002-8536-0130](https://orcid.org/0000-0002-8536-0130)

Complete contact information is available at:

<https://pubs.acs.org/10.1021/acs.jmedchem.0c00705>

## Notes

The authors declare the following competing financial interest(s): The following authors have shares in GlaxoSmithKline: J.M.F., P.G.W., M.M., K.D.R., and T.J.M. The other authors declare no competing interests.

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## ABBREVIATIONS

VL, visceral leishmaniasis; DNDi, Drugs for Neglected Diseases initiative; GSK, GlaxoSmithKline; WHO, World Health Organization; NTD, neglected tropical disease; THP-1, human monocytic cell line derived from an acute monocytic leukemia patient; Ld InMac, intramacrophage assay carried out in THP-1 cells with *L. donovani* amastigotes

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